

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS



No. 556.—VOL. XX.]

SATURDAY, MAY 1, 1852.

[THREE NUMBERS, ONE SHILLING.]

THE EXCISE DUTY ON PAPER, AND THE TAXES ON KNOWLEDGE.

ONE of the most interesting, and, we would fain hope, one of the most important debates of this broken and uncertain session of an expiring Parliament, took place on Mr. Milner Gibson's motion for the repeal of the three duties which are known as the "Taxes on Knowledge." Mr. Gibson's treatment of his subject was forcible and comprehensive; and, had he pressed his motion to a division, it is likely, from the state of the House, that the principle would have been affirmed in one or two, if not in the three, instances. Doubtless he acted on good advice and with due consideration in consenting to an adjournment of the debate. Mr. Disraeli, who has raised the expectation of the country for his forthcoming Budget, who has avowed that he has no fear of an untaxed press, who is himself one of the most distinguished literary men of his age and country, who stands somewhat in need of a little increase of popularity, and who, it is to be remembered, voted on one occasion against Excise duties upon paper, will perhaps render it unnecessary for Mr. Gibson to bring forward his motion again in its present shape. In a word, it appears to be the general impression that the Excise duties upon paper are doomed, and that the duty upon advertisements will fall with them. Either of these boons would entitle Mr. Disraeli to public gratitude—to the esteem of the class of which he is an ornament, and to the especial thanks of all who trade or read.

Upon the question of the Stamp Duty upon newspapers, which is more thoroughly and intensely a tax upon knowledge than either of the other two included in the terms of Mr. Gibson's motion, public opinion, in and out of Parliament, can scarcely be said to be so ripe or so unanimous. Mr. Disraeli does literature the justice to admit that he is not afraid of it; and the friends of a free press have his positive avowal, that, in dealing with the subject of the "Taxes on Knowledge," as he will shortly be called upon to

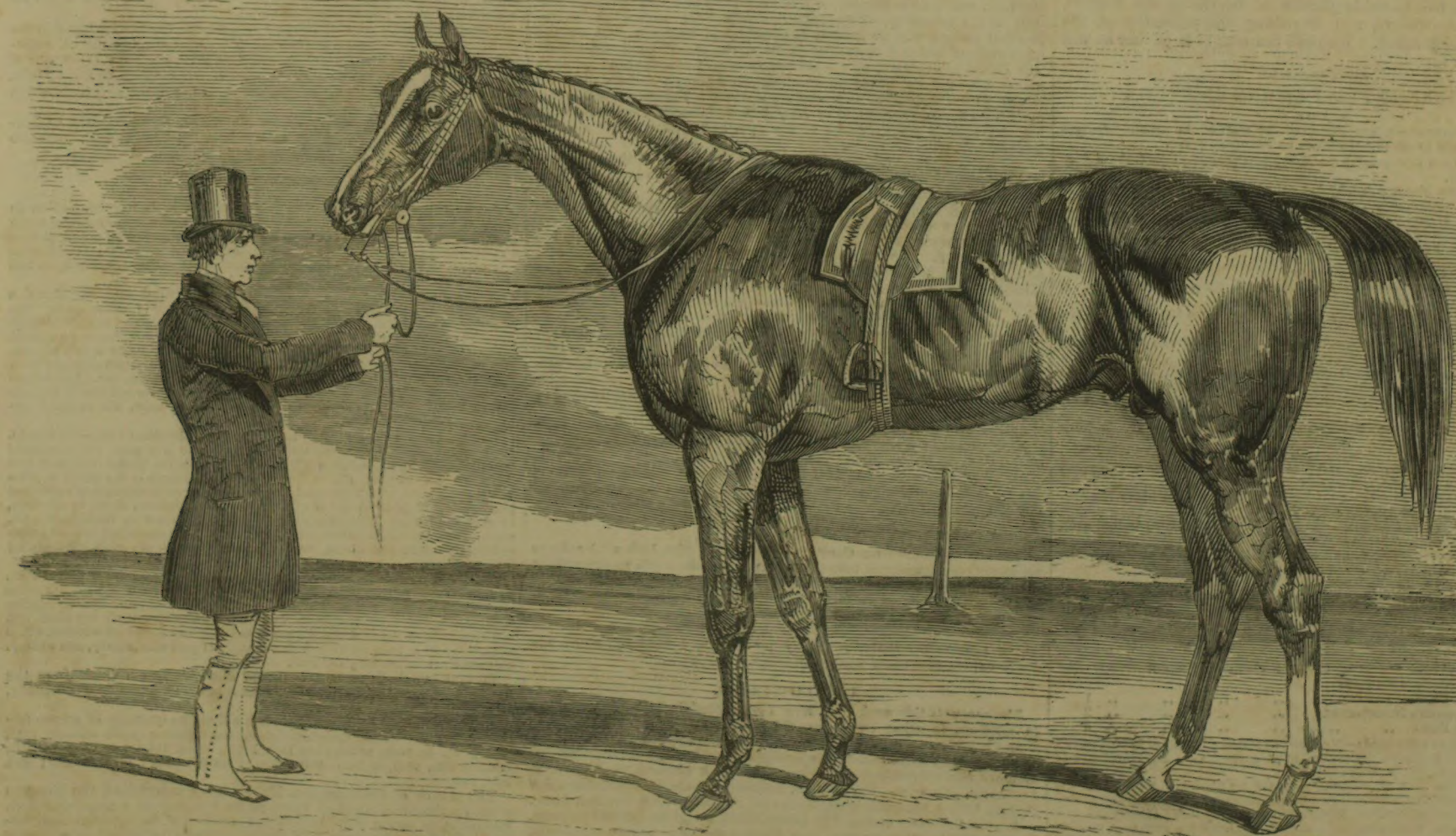
do, he will consider them under the one aspect of the revenue. This of itself is a triumph. Perhaps, even on this point we may be permitted to hope that the first literary man who ever in this country held the high office of Chancellor of the Exchequer, may also be the man who is destined to abolish the taxes upon literature, and to emancipate intellect from the fiscal burdens which impede though they cannot prevent its natural development. Such a result would atone for much that his political opponents disapprove in the previous career of Mr. Disraeli, and would indissolubly associate his name with triumphs far superior to any which mere party can achieve. The extension of education is highly needful. All admit it; but scarcely one politician or theologian will agree with any other politician or theologian as to the means to be adopted to secure it. There is one means, however, by which the end might be attained, not by the enactment of new laws and by interference with the scruples of any man's conscience, but simply by the abolition of those old laws whose operation prevents knowledge from being rendered cheap and accessible to the people. Education would, in this case, take care of itself, and freedom of action, which has done so much for the material greatness of England, would add the crowning glory to its work, and raise the moral and intellectual character of far lower strata of society than have ever yet been fully permeated by the benign influences of art, science, literature, and religion.

Taking it for granted, after what occurred last week, that the Chancellor of the Exchequer is not indisposed to abolish one or all of these taxes, if he can do so without injury to the revenue, we hope to draw his attention to the peculiar nature of the Excise duty upon paper, with the view of showing him that the loss of revenue consequent upon the emancipation of the paper manufacture would be nominal, and not real. The Advertisement duty we dismiss, because the amount is so trifling, that it is not worth

the while of the Minister to defend it on the ground of its productiveness, and because he himself has renounced all others; and the question of the Stamp duty upon newspapers, which opens up very different subjects of policy, we reserve for another opportunity. At present we confine ourselves to the Excise duty upon paper, which stands upon its own merits, and appeals to interests and to classes of a different and more extensive kind.

In the first place, if we inquire what this particular tax produces to the Exchequer, we find it to be about £800,000 per annum. This is a large sum, no doubt; but if it can be proved that the gain is counterbalanced by a loss in all probability far greater, Mr. Disraeli may see reason to abandon the impost, on the only ground on which, by his own admission, he would seek to maintain it.

If we look at the capabilities of Great Britain and Ireland for becoming a great paper manufacturing country, we find them to be far greater than those of any other country under the sun. In addition to a large supply of linen and cotton rags, derivable from her home resources as well as from abroad, it should be borne in mind that England imports and uses more cotton than any other nation, and may be said to clothe the whole world with cotton goods. Cotton waste, or refuse, so abundantly supplied by her multitudinous mills and factories, forms, next to rags, the most available material for the manufacture of paper. This supply is all but illimitable; and were the business of paper-making as free as that of calico-making, it might reasonably be expected that the extension of the one would keep pace with that of the other, and that England might at this moment supply the world with paper as bountifully and cheaply as she does with cottons. But this is notoriously not the case. We scarcely ever see the word "paper" in any list of British exports; and Englishmen skilled in the art of converting the worthless refuse of cotton, straw, chaff, and other vegetable materials, into this beautiful article of necessity as well as luxury, establish themselves in Sweden, Denmark, Russia



Belgium, the United States—anywhere, in fact, where they can be free from the vexatious and trade-destroying visitations of the Excise-officer. This fact becomes the more noteworthy when we consider that England, Wales, Scotland, and Ireland abound with streams of pure water, all admirably adapted for the purposes of the paper manufacturer; and that the establishment of paper-mills on the banks of these remote rivers could not fail to provide employment for hundreds of thousands of the rural population. But, so far from such mills being established from time to time, we find, upon investigation, that year by year their number is growing less; and that the Chancellor of the Exchequer was reminded, in a very practical and business-like letter read to the House of Commons by Mr. Milner Gibson, that the paper-mills which were formerly at work on the beautiful rivers of counties so near the metropolis as Bucks and Herts, are closed and deserted, or crumbling to decay. By degrees the paper manufacture is becoming, as it were, congested. It is falling into few hands; and, instead of being diffused through the agricultural districts, as it might be, is gradually becoming concentrated in populous places. As a friend of the agricultural interest, as well as of the general commerce and trade of the country, we think that Mr. Disraeli will admit that a revenue of £800,000 per annum may be too dear a price to pay for such results as these, even were there no such weighty considerations as those connected with the purely educational and literary part of the question to throw into the balance on the same side.

We have so often had occasion to speak of its impolicy in a literary point of view, that we prefer at present to consider the duty under its commercial aspect. Newspapers, periodicals, and books, highly important as every intelligent man will admit them to be, are not the only articles for which paper is valuable as an article of commerce, and with which Great Britain and Ireland, with the unrivalled manufacturing and other facilities at their command, might set the competition of the world at defiance. Were it not for the £800,000 per annum, which makes our literature all but inaccessible to the masses of the people, we might, after providing for the wants of our own population more abundantly than ever, export to all parts of Europe, America, and Asia with which we carry on every other branch of trade, large quantities of paper for stationery. We might also supply the world with paper-hangings for rooms, and call into profitable employment the talent of hundreds if not of thousands of draughtsmen and designers for their decoration. We might bring to greater perfection the beautiful manufacture of *papier maché*, which we now carry on at a disadvantage, whenever we wish to introduce it in competition with that of other countries, which, happily for them, are not troubled with the pest of an Excise; and our wholesale and retail traders in almost every branch of trade, some of whom pay a tax of as much as five or six per cent. for packing-paper, and who in consequence stint themselves as much as possible in the use of it, would not justly be free of an onerous burden, but would consume twice or thrice the quantity of paper to which they now confine themselves. The increased employment that this would afford may be easily imagined, and the farmers' friends might secure to themselves the greater part, if not the whole of it, in the rural districts. The busy water-wheels would once more go to work by the side of many a now silent and secluded stream. Straw and many other agricultural materials, not hitherto used for the purpose of paper manufacture, would find a daily increasing market; the workhouse would be thinned of their inmates; and the voice of cheerful industry would be heard in many a corner from whence we now hear nothing but the cry and wail of complaint and misery. Leaving out of consideration, as unnecessary to the strength of a case which can stand without it, the purely literary benefit which would ensue from the emancipation of the paper trade, the consequent establishment of printing-offices in paper-mills, and the necessary reduction in the price of all books which would certainly follow, and placing it solely on a fiscal and commercial basis, we submit that the total abolition of the Excise duty on paper would be no injury to the revenue; that what we lost on one side we should more than regain on the other; that, while the local taxes would feel the benefit in the reduction of poor-rates, the general taxation of the country would draw more than the difference in the increase of Customs and other duties which would be paid upon the luxuries of life by a well-employed, well-fed, and well-clad people.

Mr. Disraeli has a noble chance of benefiting the farmers, pleasing the Free-traders, and increasing the prosperity of the country, by one operation. We shall continue to hope that he will not lose sight of it.

NEWMARKET FIRST SPRING MEETING.

MONDAY.

The poverty of the sport—a consequence of the state of the ground—renders it almost unnecessary to say that the heat was thinly attended.

MATCH, £100.—Lord Ribblesdale's Nabob (Flatman) beat the Duke of Bedford's Hugo (Petit).

MATCH, £200.—Mr. Magennis's f. by Ion out of Palma (Day) beat Lord Clifden's Perseus (Robinson).

SWEETSTAKES of 50 sovs each.—Duke of Richmond's Harbinger (Flatman), 1. General Anson's Rolando (Rogers), 2.

£20.—Duke of Bedford's Exeter (Petit), 1. Lord Exeter's Nutshell (Norman), 2.

TUESDAY.

QUEEN'S PLATE of 100 guineas.—Mr. Delamere's Harp (Bartholomew), 1. Mr. Harde's Necklace (Flatman), 2.

SWEETSTAKES of 10 sovs each.—Mr. Rogers's Leybourne (Rogers), 1. Mr. Budge's Trinket (Flatman), 2.

HANDICAP SWEETSTAKES of 10 sovs each.—Mr. Rayner's Presto (G. E. Sharp), 1. Mr. J. M. Stanley's Abdullah (Charlton), 2.

THE TWO THOUSAND GUINEAS STAKES of 100 sovs each.—Lord Exeter's Stockwell (Norman), 1. Duke of Richmond's Homebrewed (Flatman), 2.

SWEETSTAKES of 300 sovs each.—Mr. Greville's Barcelona (Flatman), 1. Lord Exeter's Midas (Norman), 2.

MATCH, £500.—Mr. Payne's Glenluce received. Sir J. Hawley's Bilberry paid.

WEDNESDAY.

SWEETSTAKES of 50 sovs each.—Duke of Richmond's Harbinger (Flatman) walked over. Lord Exeter's Stockwell withdrew his stake.

SELLING HANDICAP of 10 sovs each.—Mr. W. E. Hughes's Sophistry (Bartholomew), 1. Duke of Bedford's Claim (Edding), 2.

SWEETSTAKES of 50 sovs each.—Mr. Payne's Glenluce (Flatman) walked over. Lord Clifden's Poodle withdrew his stake.

PLATE of 50 sovs each.—Mr. E. R. Clark's Edward of York (Flatman), 1. Mr. Armstrong's Equal (Charlton), 2.

THURSDAY.

THE QUEEN'S PLATE.—Bardolph, 1. Edward of York, 2.

HANDICAP SWEETSTAKES.—Guy Mannerling, 1. Edward of York, 2.

THE ONE THOUSAND GUINEA STAKES.—Kate, 1. Lady in Waiting, 2. Laurel-cot filly, 3.

We have engraved the winner of the Two Thousand Guineas Stakes. The following are the details of the race:—

Lord Exeter's Stockwell 1

Duke of Richmond's Homebrewed 2

Sir R. Pigot's Filius 3

The following were not placed:—Mr. Bowes's Daniel O'Rourke, Lord Exeter's Ambrose, Duke of Bedford's Maidstone, Lord Ribblesdale's Lapidist, Duke of Richmond's Hvalakin, Mr. B. Way's Stapleton.

Stapleton took the lead at starting, followed by Stockwell, with whom the others were closely laid up, and made running at his best pace for about half a mile. Stockwell then went in advance, Homebrewed lying second, Filius third, and Maidstone and Daniel O'Rourke next; and in this order the race continued to the end, Stockwell maintaining the lead and winning in gallant style by half a length. Filius was beaten about two lengths from the winner, Maidstone a bad fourth, Daniel O'Rourke fifth, beaten a long way. Time, 1 min. 48 sec.

The company on the fifth this afternoon, although very much below what we have usually seen on the "Two Thousand" day, was numerous. It included the Duke of Rutland, Duke of Bedford, Marquis of Exeter, Lords Glasgow, Enfield, Maidstone, Uxbridge, Lichfield, Keane, Clifden, Airish, Ribblesdale, Osborne, Villiers, Exmouth, J. Manners, Lady Maidstone, Lady Keane, Pigot, &c.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

Considerable interest has been excited in Paris by the boldness of the course which has been taken by one of the Courts of law in opposition to the despotic decree of the Prince President, which confiscated the property of the House of Orleans.

The question as to the validity of that organic law of spoliation arose out of the recent violent seizure, in conformity with its provisions, by officers of the Executive, of the domains and *châteaux* of Neuilly and Monceau (which we noticed a week or two back), and it was brought before the Court of *Première Instance* (the civil tribunal of the department of the Seine), in order to try the merits of that forcible entry upon these sections of the Orleans property. The court was crowded with an audience anxious to learn if there was yet left in France a body capable of thwarting the absolute *dicta* of the Dictator. M. Descoutures, the substitute of the Procureur of the Republic on the occasion, called on the tribunal to declare itself incompetent to deal with the question. M. Paillet, in the name of the Orleans family, argued for the competence of the tribunal; and M. Berryer followed on the same side. The tribunal, after an hour's deliberation, delivered a judgment declaring itself competent, and postponed the affair for a fortnight for the purpose of its being argued on its merits. The decision of the bench was received in court by enthusiastic marks of approbation.

The following are the reasons on which the judgment of the Court is founded:—

Considering that the members of the family of Orleans, proceeding as proprietors of the domains of Neuilly and of Monceau, either in virtue of the donation of the 7th of August, 1830, or in quality of their father and on behalf of the Princess Adelaide, their aunt, or in virtue of a possession of more than twenty years, amounting to prescription; considering that their proceedings for object the property of these two domains; considering that the ordinary tribunals are exclusively competent to take cognizance of questions of property, validity of contracts, and prescriptions; that this principle has always been applicable to the State as to individuals; that, for these reasons, it pertains to the tribunal alone to apply the law to the facts which have given rise to the present proceedings; the Court declares itself competent, postpones the cause for fifteen days in order to be tried on the merits, and condemns the Prefect of the Seine to the expenses of the present case.

But the Court of *Première Instance* will not be permitted to deal with the question any further, whether on its merits or on any technical grounds that the ingenuity of lawyers might devise. The will and intention of the President of the Republic on the matter have been indicated with unblushing effrontery in a truculent article in the *Patrie*, the organ of the Elysée, which was intended to intimidate the judges. The writer reminds the judges of their oath of fidelity to the President, and tells them that they are not at liberty to construe the oath as pledged in a general way to the Chief of the State, but that they must understand it as a special pledge of fidelity to the person of the Prince; and some observations are added about anarchy having fled from the streets and taken refuge on the bench. The way being thus cleared for a bold stroke, the case has been ordered to be taken from the jurisdiction of the Court of *Première Instance* and referred to the Council of State, one of the three great bodies which has just been formed under the new Constitution, and which is composed almost solely of the closest partisans and adherents of Louis Napoleon and the new order of things, and there the matter rests for the present. No other court has control over the decision of the Council of State.

There was a grand review of troops in the Court of the Tuilleries on Monday, at which the President distributed decorations to the troops; after which he proceeded to the races in the Champ de Mars, which was the first Spring meeting of the Paris turf this year. The pomp and style of the President and his *entourage* on the occasion was quite Royal. In order to win the favour of the army still further, a decree has been promulgated ordaining that 1851 shall be reckoned as a year of campaign to all troops employed in the suppression of the disturbances of December last.

The following inscription is to be placed in letters of gold on the coffin of the Emperor, at the Invalides:—

Napoleon Bonaparte, born the 15th August, 1769, chef d'escadron of artillery at the siege of Toulon, in 1793, at the age of 24; Commander of Artillery in Italy in 1794, at the age of 25; General-in-Chief of the Army of Italy in 1797, at the age of 28; he made his expedition to Egypt in 1798, at the age of 29; was nominated First Consul in 1799, at the age of 30; Consul for life after the Battle of Marengo in 1800; Emperor in 1804, at the age of 35; abdicated after Waterloo in 1815, aged 45; and died 5th May, 1821, aged 52.

On Sunday morning, at ten o'clock, the wooden barrack of the pyrotechnic establishment in the Bois de Vincennes was blown up. It contained all the rockets and stars intended for the fireworks of the 10th of May. All the workmen were absent at breakfast when the explosion took place. It is said to have been caused by the heating of the salts in the composition of the rockets, as they were not sufficiently neutralised. The loss is estimated at nearly 60,000*fr.*

On Tuesday, a military funeral service, in honour of Marshal Gerard, was performed at the Invalides. The Prince President was represented by General Roguet. Marshals Jerome Bonaparte, Excellmans, and Vaillant, and a large number of general officers and senators, were present at the ceremony, which, notwithstanding the wish expressed by Marshal Gerard that no funeral display should be made, was on the same scale of military splendour as the service for Marshal Sebastiani. The *Patrie*, in enumerating the persons present on the occasion, specially names King Jerome, for whom a distinguished place had been reserved, as also Prince Napoleon, son of King Jerome. The *Moniteur* likewise designates Jerome Bonaparte as King Jerome. The Royal style and title is thus gradually made familiar to the eyes and ears of the "citizen" Republicans.

The *Moniteur* contains a decree, by which the officers of the navy, and other functionaries connected with that department, are ordered to take the oath of allegiance within a month.

The official report of the Extraordinary Commissioner, Colonel Espinasse, to the south of France, who was sent to give pardon to all the recent insurgents whom he might deem fit objects of the favour, has been published. He states that, out of 4000 insurgents, he was only able to pardon 200, and commute the sentence of 100. The peaceable inhabitants viewed with alarm the return of such persons to society, and their feeling against any idea of amnesty was most determined. He further states his regret, that the mixed commission had by unwise leniency lost an opportunity for suppressing anarchy such as might not occur soon again. The result of this report is, that a decree has been published by the President of the Republic, ordering, that from this time all applications for pardon, not granted by the mixed commissions, must be made according to the ordinary forms, and conformably to existing laws and regulations.

The last member of the Parliament of Burgundy, in the ante-revolutionary times of the last century, M. Juliet de St. Pierre, died last week, near Dijon, in his hundredth year.

M. Teste, the ex-Minister of Louis Philippe, who was found guilty of accepting bribes a few years ago before the Court of Peers, died, on Sunday last, at Chaillet, outside Paris.

TURKEY.

The latest advices from Constantinople (dated the 15th ult.) refer to an angry correspondence between Austria and the Porte on the subject of the troubles in Bosnia, and the ill spirit openly manifested in that city towards Austrian subjects. Report says that the demands made upon the Sultan are likely to receive an unreserved denial. The Egyptian question was believed to be near a satisfactory arrangement, owing to the conciliatory advice given by Sir Stratford Canning, which the Porte expressed himself willing to adopt.

UNITED STATES.

The accounts this week from New York (dated the 15th ult.) mention, in addition to other casualties, the occurrence of another of those gigantic accidents with which the steam communication of the Union is so intimately associated in the European mind. The disaster in this instance was a steamboat explosion, which took place on the 9th ult. at Lexington, Missouri. The *Saluda*, bound to Council Bluffs, burst her boilers, killing 100 passengers, Moimons, on their way to the Salt Lake. A great flood had occurred in Texas, doing a vast amount of damage. In other parts of the country, also, there were very destructive floods. At Cincinnati the Ohio had risen sixty feet perpendicular above the low or summer level.

A warehouse containing between 4000 and 5000 bales of cotton was destroyed by fire on the 11th at Savannah. The ice on Lake Erie was moving slightly, but still remained impassable.

With respect to political news, we learn that the Whig members of the New York Legislature have nominated General Scott for the Presi-

dency, and the Missouri State Democratic Convention have expressed a preference for General Cass. The State general election in Rhode Island has gone for the Whigs, with the exception that the present Democratic Governor has been re-elected.

Kossuth arrived at Charleston on the 9th ult., and left on the 10th, but no enthusiasm was shown by the populace. In "the far west" it would appear to be otherwise, at least judging by the following extraordinary telegraphic communications, which appear in the New York papers:—

Cincinnati, Saturday, April 10.

A resolution passed the Senate of Ohio to-day, to loan the arms of the State to Kossuth.

Cincinnati, Monday, April 12.

The resolution passed by the State Senate on Saturday to loan the arms of the State to Kossuth was taken up in the House this morning, and laid on the table by a vote of 44 to 28.

The President was about to appoint a United States consul to Manchester.

The line of electric telegraphic communication is now complete between New York and New Orleans, a distance of 3000 miles; and thus, owing to the difference of longitude, a message telegraphed from New York at ten o'clock A.M., arrives at New Orleans when it is nine o'clock A.M. at that place; in other words, an hour before it starts!

We learn from Panama, under date of the 3d ult., that passenger-trains now run on the Panama Railroad as far as Buena Vista, to which point it was opened on the 2d ult. The chief engineer expected to have the road opened to Freola on the 18th ult., leaving only twelve miles of river navigation. The regular trains leave Aspinwall daily, at which place the passengers by the steamer get at once on the wharf, thus avoiding the danger and inconvenience attending the landing in small boats at Chagres, which latter place was being deserted very fast. Many houses were being removed to Aspinwall, which was beginning to assume the appearance of a busy and thriving city.

From California the latest date is to the 17th of March. The most important part of the news refers to a great freshet in the interior, caused by the rains, the loss of property, and the incidents connected with it. The loss of property, however, is not so great as it was on a former occasion last year. Sacramento was, on the present occasion, overflowed in consequence of a crevasse in the levee, and so was Marysville. In the former comparatively little damage was done, more inconvenience than actual loss being sustained. Marysville, on the other hand, suffered a great deal. The damage is estimated at 150,000 dollars.

The mines were scarcely accessible, in consequence of the bad condition of the roads, and the destruction of the bridges leading to them. The miners, however, continued in the best spirits; and, though they endured many privations, they were generally pretty well satisfied with the produce of their labour. The yield of gold this season was thought likely to be greater than during any preceding year.

Crime was on the increase. Several murders had been committed in the interior by Indians, some of whom were arrested, tried, and convicted, according to the Lynch mode of procedure. In San Francisco burglary was of frequent occurrence. Hardly a night passed over without one or more houses being forcibly entered and plundered.

WEST INDIES.

The accounts received this week by the usual monthly mail from the islands are of little interest. From Jamaica, under date March 31, we learn that the depressed state of the island was the all-absorbing topic. The fund for sending delegates to England had reached a large amount; one of these gentlemen has already arrived here, and others are to follow by the next packet, for the purpose of laying their grievances before the British Legislature. The Barbadoes lighthouse has been completed. It will be lighted as soon as the usual notices have been given by the proper authorities.

Advices from St. Jago (Cuba) to the 6th of March state that the authorities there are still so apprehensive of another invasion, that they keep three armed vessels cruising along their shores.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

Accounts have been received by her Majesty's ship *Amazon*, dated March 7th, from which we learn that hostilities had been partially suspended by the Kaffirs, who had sued for peace; but, as they would not agree to the terms of unreserved submission which Sir Harry Smith laid down, he was arranging a plan of operations on an effective scale, and would take the field on the 8th of March, with the whole of the levies, with whom, in person, he intended to cross the Kei.

Colonels Mitchell and Eyre, in the Amatolas, had been very successful. They had destroyed the whole of the crops, taken large quantities of cattle, and killed twenty-six of the enemy, with a loss to the British of three killed and wounded.

A desperate engagement had taken place on the north-eastern frontier, between a patrol under Commandant Gilfillan and a large body of Tambookies, in which the latter lost 100 men and 1000 head of cattle; the burghers had five killed and three wounded.

Macomo retained his hold of Waterkloof, with, besides his own clan, 2500 allies. Their expulsion appeared almost hopeless.

Colonel Pole and the 12th Lancers had destroyed all the enemy's crops in the Kabousa.

The *Hydra*, having on board General Cathcart, had not arrived at the Cape; neither had the *Megara*, with the service companies of the 1st battalion of the Rifle Brigade on board.

About fifty of the crew of the late *Dirkenhead* have come home in the *Amazon*, including the second master, Mr. Richards; two clerks, assistant-surgeon, sergeant of marines, and four privates. The other part of the crew, and a number of soldiers, are in the hospital at Cape Town, from bruises and sore feet, &c., occasioned at the wreck and their march overland from Danger Point.

The Dutch barque *Juno*, Captain Chevalier, from Batavia to Dordrecht, was wrecked, March 2, on the fatal Cape Laguelhas; and two ladies and three children, passengers, were drowned.

ALTERATION IN THE MAIL SERVICE.—It is in contemplation to make the foreign steam-packets now sailing from the port of Southampton touch at Plymouth, to land and embark mails and passengers, thereby saving at least sixteen hours in the delivery of letters in London and Liverpool; time in such matters being of the utmost importance to the commercial community as well as to Government.

A NEW BULLET.—Captain Maher has invented and registered a new bullet, which is intended to supersede the necessity of rifling guns. The bullet is shaped like the Minié, but is not intended to hold any cap. The small quantity of powder used, entering the hollow in its base, is supposed to expand the lead sufficiently to attain all purposes. But its chief feature is that the ball is itself rifled, if we may say so, instead of the barrel. Captain Maher's plan will cause the loading to be quite as simple as that of the musket. This invention is secured under the name of the "Mars" bullet. It is said that it will sell as well as muskets, and, should it be generally used, will be found economical as well as effective.

OPTIONAL PAYMENT OF LETTERS TO HELIGOLAND.—GENERAL POST OFFICE, April, 1852.—On and after the 1st of May next, the postage of letters transmitted by packet, *via* Hamburg, between the United Kingdom and the island of Heligoland, may either be paid in advance or the letters may be forwarded unpaid, at the option of the sender, except in the case of registered letters, the postage of which, as well as the registration fee, must, in all cases, be paid in advance. The postage upon letters addressed to Heligoland is 6*d.* when not exceeding half an ounce in weight, is, when exceeding half an ounce and not exceeding one ounce, and so on according to the scale for charging inland letters.

BURGLARY NEAR LIVERPOOL.—On Wednesday night, seven men, with their faces blackened, entered the house of Mr. J. M. Farlane, land-steward to the Spekehall estate, who resides at Speke, near Liverpool; and after ill treating the inmates, and threatening them with destruction if they made any alarm and resistance, the villains rifled the house of one gold and two silver watches, a £10 note, and £20 in gold, together with a quantity of port wine, sherry, and whisky. The police are on the burglars' trail.

M. Gustave de Beaumont, *ci-devant* Minister to our Court from the French Republic, has just established himself as a wine merchant of Burgundy, at Cassagnac.

A return printed on Thursday shows that the quantity of guano imported into the United Kingdom during the following years was:—In 1841, 2881 tons; in 1842, 20,398; in 1843, 3002; in 1844, 104,251; in 1845, 283,300; in 1846, 89,203; in 1847, 89,392; in 1848, 71,414; in 1849, 83,438; in 1850, 116,925; and in 1851, 243,016.

The Mayor of Southampton, Mr. Andrews, entertained the directors of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam-packet Company at a grand dinner on Wednesday, in honour of the renewal and extension of the company's mail contract. Upwards of 200 guests were present, including the borough members, Sir A. Cockburn and Mr. Wilcox. The Mayor presided, and several eloquent speeches were made. In the evening there was a grand ball.

At the last meeting of her Majesty's Commissioners for the Great Exhibition of 1851, the report to be presented to the Queen was decided on; and it was agreed that in future, acting under the charter of incorporation, they would only require one secretary, to which post Mr. Edgar A. Bowring was appointed.

DEATH BY STARVATION OF THE PATAGONIAN MISSION.

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)

H.M.S. *Dido*, Valparaiso, February 14, 1852.

Sir,—In inclosing the accompanying narrative connected with the fate of the Patagonian Mission Society in Tierra del Fuego for your information, and which, perhaps, may serve in some measure to render more interesting and explanatory the able Sketches* which are herewith submitted to you, I would observe, that what I have written is entirely at your disposal; merely adding, that the original papers and journals from which my narrative has been compiled will be sent to Mrs. Gardiner.

H.M.S. *Dido*, W. H. Moorshead, C.B., Captain, left Plymouth Sound on the eve of the 30th October, 1851; a day or two previous to which a letter was received from the Admiralty, enclosing an application from Mr. Pakenham Despar, Secretary of the Society, requesting, as the *Dido* was going to the Pacific, she might call in at Picton Island, Tierra del Fuego, to ascertain the fate of the Mission. On our passage there we called in at the Falkland Islands, to glean intelligence, if possible, of them. They had not been heard of there, but we received on board a quantity of essentials for their sustenance and preservation, which a merchant there had been waiting for some time to send to Picton Island. We arrived at the Falklands on the 31st of December, and left on the 6th of January. On the afternoon of Sunday the 11th, while beating up to New Year's Islands, Staten Island, we observed on one of the islands a staff with some sort of a flag on it; so we ran in and anchored. The next morning, boats were sent away to search various parts. What we saw at the staff was a piece of cotton print, but no other traces of persons having lately been there. At the head of a little snug bay, in New Year's Harbour, we discovered a large boat, with the words "Aladin Afeuradi" on her stern; and about 300 yards from her, on the beach, was a small piece of board, with the intelligence that on the 16th October, 1851, the *P. E. Davidson*, New York, Captain Smyley, was there, bound to relieve the missionaries at Picton Island. The next day we left. Reached Picton Island on the 19th, where, in our rambles, we discovered traces of Com. Gardiner's party having been there, and saw the directions on the rocks he writes about in his journal, which induced us to go to Spaniard Harbour, where, sad to relate, we discovered the unfortunate end of the whole party.

We left Spaniard Harbour on the 22d January, and reached this place on the 10th of Feb., favourable weather having been granted us during the whole passage from England.

I remain, &c., HENRY S. DYER, Pmr. and Purser.

The Patagonian Mission party consisted of Commander Allen Francis Gardiner, of 1826; Messrs. Maidment and Williams, catechists; Irwin, Carpenter, John Badcock, John Bryant, and John Pearce, boatmen. They left Liverpool on or about the 7th of September, 1850, on board the *Ocean Queen*, which vessel was going round Cape Horn, and on to California. On the 4th October they sent letters home by the *Peter Senn*, from Rio de Janeiro to London; and again they had an opportunity of sending to their friends by a Spanish vessel bound to Rio de Janeiro, the 16th of the same month: by the latter vessel Captain G. wrote to Mr. Lafone, at Monte Video, informing him of the destination of the mission party, and requesting him to permit the vessel employed by him between Monte Video and the Falkland Islands to visit the mission at Banner Cove, with supplies, as soon as convenient. One of the party, named Badcock, soon after the embarkation, had an attack of fever, which was prevalent at the village from which he came—viz. Mousehole, near Penzance, in Cornwall; the other two boatmen subsequently had attacks, which yielded under the care of Mr. Williams. Mr. Maidment during the voyage suffered much from sea-sickness. On the 5th December the *Ocean Queen* anchored in Banner Roads, Picton Island, Tierra del Fuego. Between that date and the 19th the mission were landed, and their boats got in some measure fit for service. The *Ocean Queen* left for her destination on that day, as also did Captain G. and his party in their two boats—one named the *Pioneer*, an open boat; the other the *Speedwell*, a decked one, with two dingies (small boats). His purpose was to examine the north side of the channel, in the hope of finding a secure anchorage not frequented by the natives, where he might uninterruptedly complete the fittings of his boats. On getting away from Banner Roads, the *Speedwell* touched the ground; the *Pioneer* rounded a point of land and shut the *Speedwell* in. The former proceeded with the two small boats in tow, thinking her consort was following. While going over the north shore the wind freshened, and the dingies broke adrift, and were never recovered—a very sad loss to them. The *Pioneer* found, about 17 miles from Picton, a very beautiful expanse of water entered into by a snug cove; they were perfectly landed. It had the appearance of a lake, the land about was perfectly wooded, green slopes with ornamental copes of trees skirted its margin, and altogether it was to the eye a most lovely spot. They moored to the shore for the night. On account of its coming on to rain they had great difficulty in kindling a fire. (It is perhaps unnecessary to state that the warmth of a fire is seldom unacceptible in these regions.) This harbour was named by Captain G. Bloomfield Harbour, in testimony of his respect for his valued friend Sir Thomas Bloomfield. Not finding any symptoms of the *Speedwell's* approach, he became very anxious about her, and resolved to return in search of her; he therefore left at 5 A.M. in consequence of a long boat, he did not reach Banner Roads till late in the evening, when, to his relief, he caught a glimpse of her at the anchorage from which they had started. On nearing her, they shouted with all their strength; but all was still; not a sound was heard but the plashing of the oars and the murmur of the surf on the outer beach. It was an awful suspense. They still approached, and still hailed, uniting all their voices; but no reply: their worst apprehension seemed to be confirmed, each in his own mind imagining the natives, emboldened by the weakness of the crew of the *Speedwell*, had availed themselves of the opportunity, and overpowered them. When they reached her, no movement or sound was heard, and they fully expected that they had all been murdered. At length a voice was heard from below, which was at once recognised, and one by one their companions appeared. The most gloomy moments had given place to hearty congratulations. It was then 3 A.M., and as Capt. G. thought it absolutely necessary the boats should be put in a seaworthy condition, which could not well be done with all their provisions, &c. in them, and there being a number of natives about Banner Cove and its neighbourhood, he purposed to effect it in Bloomfield Harbour, where he had only observed an old wigwam, but no natives. Accordingly, that morning both boats started. Unfortunately, soon after, the *Pioneer* became becalmed, and, requiring a little water, he pulled in again to the anchorage, the *Speedwell* remaining outside in the Channel. The loss of the small boats caused him to run close in on the beach to get the water: it was then one o'clock, Sunday morning. At daylight they were awake by the voices of natives, two of whom were preparing to get on board, and to their great concern they found the boat aground, the tide having receded. At this time nothing was seen of the *Speedwell*. It may as well, perhaps, be stated here, that on overhauling their stores after the *Ocean Queen* had left them, they found that one item (which, perhaps, might have been the means of saving some of them, if not all), viz. gunpowder, had not been landed with the rest of their things, and that one flask and a half was all they had in their possession.

To resume the narrative:—The natives alarmed them much, and they were apprehensive of an attack. There they were, high and dry; their situation tempting indeed, if the people had any intention of molesting them. But they remembered Him who, by the mouth of his apostles, has said, "Who shall harm you, if ye be followers of that which is good?" and they accordingly united together in prayer, committing themselves to the gracious protection of the Almighty. The natives observed them attentively, and their manner became more quiet. Shortly after the *Speedwell* hove in sight; but, on account of the wind, could not get near enough to render them any assistance. After this more of the natives came around them, and some few fish were purchased with buttons, knives, &c.; still they could not divest themselves of the idea that an attack was meditated. However, as soon as the boat was afloat, they were quietly allowed to move from the spot, and they went to join their companions, who had anchored in Banner Cove. There they remained unmolested till the 4th of January, 1851, when rather a formidable force came into the place in different parties—first three, then two, afterwards three more, canoes. As they approached they divided, three coming alongside of over boats, while the other two remained near one of their wigwams. Besides the women who paddled, there were two men in each canoe. Thinking so large an assemblage was for some hostile purpose (sixteen men were counted in all), orders were given for leaving the cove. While we were

steadily getting ready, bundles of long oar spears were noticed in some of the canoes; and while on shore the natives belonging to the other two boats were putting baskets of pebbles from the beach into them. The cables were instantly cut, the stern anchor hove up; but, on account of their boats having been lashed together, it was some little time before they could clear each other and get their sails to draw: the wind, also, was light, and they considered the natives would take advantage of all these circumstances, and commence what certainly had all the appearance of a meditated attack. The *Speedwell* unfortunately again touched ground, and for a few minutes it was doubtful whether she could be got off. Most providentially, by means of oars and poles, she was got into deeper water, and they proceeded out of the Cove. The natives were observed to be busily engaged in securing the little raft that had been used for going backwards and forwards to the shore as a boat, and which was cut adrift when they started from their moorings. Their intention was to have gone over to Bloomfield Harbour, but the state of the wind would not permit it. Lennox Harbour was the only safe place to which they could go, and thither they proceeded; meeting, on the passage of twenty-seven hours, calms, light and contrary winds, and a hard north gale, which, after they reached Lennox Harbour, rendered their situation very critical, as they feared being driven upon the rocks. It being necessary to examine the bottoms of the boats, they were beached; but the *Pioneer* was thrown by a sudden gust of wind amongst some rocks, fortunately without receiving any injury. The tide was very high when they were beached; and they were obliged to remain there until the 17th before they were again afloat. Only two or three natives were seen there, and they were friendly. On the 18th they left Lennox Harbour for Bloomfield Harbour, but when near the entrance they perceived a large assemblage of natives. Thinking they would not be able to work well in the boats with so many about them, they altered their plans, and went towards Spaniard Harbour, where they anchored on the 25th. The next day they landed, and discovered a river which emptied itself near where they were lying in the boats, which was named Cook's River, in remembrance of the Christian lady who had been to great a benefactress to the Missionary cause. Finding where they lay was in rather an exposed anchorage, they shifted on the 29th to a cove on the west side of the harbour (not far from where they first lay), which they named Earnest Cove, in anticipation of the fruits which they prayed might attend their labours in behalf of the inhabitants of those islands. Here their principal troubles and anxieties commenced, and here they ceased; but I must not anticipate. On the 1st of February it blew a hurricane, a heavy swell set into the bay, occasioning a high surf on the beach, during which the *Pioneer* was driven on a small rock in the bay, and then on to the beach, damaged beyond their remedy, the surf making right over her. After this their attention was first given to save, if possible, their provisions, bedding, stores, &c., which was effected at no little risk. All that was saved was removed to a cavern close by, and which was named Pioneer Cavern. This place became the residence of those who lived on shore during their stay in Earnest Cove. They soon found this cavern very damp, and rheumatic pains came on; the tide, also, at times rose very high, and came some way inside, rendering their position anything but agreeable. For these reasons they hauled what remained of their boat close up to the bank, and converted her into a sleeping apartment. On account of the highness of the surf, they were not able to communicate with the *Speedwell* for two or three days, when they found her and the party on board her all right.

On the 18th February a very high tide rose again, and carried away many things out of the cavern, amongst which was Captain G.'s purse, containing £8 8s. (his all), his rings, reference Bible, &c.

On the 23d Mr. Williams was suffering much from an attack of rheumatism brought on by having to wear damp clothes. In order to give him more space in the sleeping boat, Captain G. had a shed erected against the face of a projecting rock, which was afterwards called the Hermitage. There he resided. On account of the dampness of the place a fire was kept up. We arose one morning and found it very low, when all at once it burst into a flame, and he was completely burned out of it. The next morning he went to look at his old dormitory, when, to his surprise, he found that part on which he usually laid his head was covered with large pieces of rock. A few hours before he had been regretting the loss of the place; but on seeing the pieces of the rock, his regret was soon exchanged for a humbling sense of the compassion of the Almighty in so warning him from a spot of such danger. On the 17th of March Mr. Williams saw evident symptoms of scurvy in John Badcock, which determined Captain G. to return to Picton Island, if possible, for the provisions that were hid in the woods, so as to enable him to provide better for the sick. On the 18th Mr. Williams was able to be moved into the *Speedwell*, and the wind being favourable they left (the whole party) on the 19th, and dropped their anchor at Banner Cove on the 23rd. On landing the next day, they discovered in a wigwam a party of natives, consisting of five men, five women, and three children; as usual, they were importunate, but, on the whole, peaceably inclined. The next day they removed in the *Speedwell* to Tent Cove, the better to be able to recover their provisions; viz. on cask of pork and three of biscuit. On the 26th, Captain G. was busily employed burying bottles containing notes describing their circumstances, and where they were to be found should any vessel arrive in search of them. On prominent portions of rock were also painted the words, "You will find us in Spaniard Harbour." Just as he was finishing the last letter, he was surprised by hearing the voices of natives, and four canoes were seen approaching the cove. Preparations had been made for a hasty retreat in consequence of the continued illness of Mr. Williams and John Badcock, as also in case the natives should appear in any force. We soon hurried on board, but found that two of the three casks of biscuit had not been brought off, to recover which he thought it would be unsafe to make the attempt. Some few natives came alongside, but their manner was not liked. During the night a strict watch was kept, and a peculiar noise was heard in the wood, which was interpreted into signals which had been previously arranged by the natives. This became a great source of alarm to them. Fortunately, at four the next morning, the wind, which had before been adverse, changed, and they immediately took advantage of it and got away. The natives were observed to be on the alert, with fires lit in their canoes. Some of them followed; but, finding the *Speedwell* was too fast for them, they returned. On the 29th they resumed their former anchorage in Spaniard Harbour. On the 21st of April, after experiencing a heavy gale, the boat was removed to Cook's River and secured to the right bank, having an anchor out in the stream ready for hauling off when found necessary. Mr. Williams and John Badcock continued ill up to this time, principally, it is supposed, from a continuance of vegetable food, poverty of blood resulting therefrom. Every care was taken to economise their provisions, and what, under other circumstances, would have been considered unpalatable, was cooked and eaten. A penguin, a shag-fish thrown up on the beach, portions of dead birds, &c., did not come amiss. On the 12th of May they found, using the greatest care, they had but three weeks' provisions. Their allowance was then reduced, the strongest using as little as possible, to enable the sick to have a larger quantity.

On the 28th of June poor Badcock died; for some days previous he had suffered much from difficulty in breathing, and had become extremely weak. Shortly before he expired he begged Mr. Williams, who was lying sick in the boat beside him (in Cook's River), to join him in singing a hymn; he then repeated the 202d of Wesley's collection, "Arise my soul, shake off these guilty fears." He sang it through with a loud voice, and then ceased to breathe. On the 30th, after attending the funeral of Badcock, he returned to the cavern; on reaching it, he found Mr. Maidment in the act of leaving, as the tide was then rising very fast, and some of the things Mr. M. had removed further into the cavern for better security. There being no time to lose, they hurried away from it, and had great difficulty in reaching the beach on account of the surf. Mr. M. was twice taken off his legs. Rain and sleet were then falling. On reaching their sleeping boat they considered she was in danger of being swept away, the tide being still rising. They then proceeded to the Hermitage, and there they were afraid of being hemmed in, but did not leave it before kneeling down and thanking their Heavenly father for the mercies they had experienced. They then went into the wood, but the drippings from the trees were worse than the rain that was falling; so that, unable to find any shelter, they remained until 9.30 P.M., standing up or pacing about in an exposed place. With the exception of a very small piece of biscuit, they had had nothing to eat since the morning. They were wet, cold, and hungry; and could not venture to sit down, as every thing was dripping around them. At this time the tide appears to have fallen, and they were enabled to get round to the *Speedwell*, where they slept, Irwin insisting on Captain G.'s sleeping in his bed, while Mr. Maidment slept on another man's. The next day they went back to Earnest Cove. On their way they again experienced the care of their Heavenly Protector: near the beach they found a large rock cod, which had evidently been thrown up by the surf. Their sleeping boat was all right. The condition of the party on the 8th July was lamentable indeed. Mr. Williams was fluctuating from extreme exhaustion to comparative ease; the rest were daily becoming weaker; so all thoughts of going to Picton Island

for the two casks of biscuit were abandoned. They had been rather more than eight weeks on short allowance: with all these hardships and privations, not one word of complaint appears to have been uttered. They placed their full reliance on the mercies of Him whom they had desired to serve, by attaching themselves to the mission, and fully expected a vessel bringing them succour would arrive. At this date the remains of all their stock was as follows:—One pound of salt pork, one pint of peas, nearly one pound of tea (damaged by salt water), six ounces of the fish picked up on the beach, two cakes of chocolate, and two mice. They were carefully collecting mussels, which, with the addition of wild celery, had enabled them so long to preserve even the above small quantity of provisions; they being exhausted, nothing but the latter articles, viz. mussels and celery, would remain to them.

I am not in possession of any particulars from the 8th July till the 7th August, wherein he (Capt. G.) states in a prayer that the Lord has seen fit to bring them very low, and supplicates Him, if it is his good pleasure, yet to grant them the supplies they stand so much in need of; but that should it be his will that none of the mission should survive, that He would raise up other labourers who may convey the saving truths of the Gospel to the poor blind heathen around him.

The latest date found is the 6th of September: it is a note addressed to Mr. Williams, wherein he says Mr. Maidment had left him on Tuesday the 2d (the cavern was not more than 300 yards from the boat), and had not again returned to him, and doubts not but what he had gone to his Redeemer; that he (Mr. G.) had not tasted food for five days; but felt neither hunger nor thirst. It is very probable that within a very short time after writing the above the spirit of that devoted man was wafted away to the regions of everlasting bliss. In all trials and adversities, it is easy to imagine that the words, "It is the Lord—let Him do what seemeth Him best," were ever before him. It appears that previous to this Mr. Maidment had read the funeral service over the bodies of Bryant and Irwin; and it is evident that at the time of Captain Gardiner writing the note on the 6th September, the only persons he thought were alive were Mr. Williams and John Pearce. That they died at Cook's River, on or about the same time as Capt. Gardiner, there is not much reason to doubt.

Capt. G. was 56 years of age on the 28th June, 1851.

Spaniard Harbour is in lat. 54 deg. 53 sec. S., long. 65 deg. 50 sec. W. Capt. Moorshead, H.M.S. *Dido*, has also forwarded to the Admiralty an official report of the melancholy fate of the Mission, in which he quotes portions of Capt. Gardiner's journal to Sept. 5:—

The last remarks (says Capt. Moorshead) are not written so plainly as the previous day, and I concluded that they were the last; but I find another paper, dated Sept. 6, addressed to Mr. Williams, and written in pencil, the whole being very indistinct, and some parts quite obliterated, but nearly as follows:—

"My dear Mr. Williams,—The Lord has seen fit to call home another of our little company. Our dear departed brother left the boat on Tuesday afternoon, and has not since returned; doubtless he is in the presence of his Redeemer, whom he served faithfully. Yet a little while, and though the Almighty to sing the praises of his throne. I neither hunger nor thirst, though days without food. Maidment's kindness to me. heaven.—Your affectionate brother in Christ, Sept. 6, 1851." (Signed) "ALLEN F. GARDINER."

From the above statement I must, therefore, conclude that the two bodies found at Cook's River were those of Mr. Williams and T. Pearce, and, considering their weak state, it is unreasonable to suppose they could have survived Captain Gardiner, who could scarcely have lived over September 6, 1851. I will offer no opinion upon the missionary labour of Captain Gardiner and the party, beyond its being marked by an earnestness and devotion to the cause. But, as a brother officer, I beg to record my admiration of his conduct in the moment of peril and danger, and his energy and resources entitle him to high professional credit. At one time I find him surrounded by hostile natives and dreading an attack, yet forbearing to fire, and the savages awe and subdued by the solemnity of his party kneeling down in prayer. At another, having failed to leave his boat when on the rocks, he digs a channel under her, and diverts a fresh-water stream into it; and I find him making an anchor by filling an old bread cask with stones, heading it up, and securing wooden crosses over the head with chains. There could not be a doubt as to the ultimate success of a mission here, if liberally supported; but I venture to express a hope that no society will hazard another without entrusting their supplies to practical men, acquainted with commercial affairs, who would have seen at a glance the hopeless improbability of any ship, not chartered for the occasion, sailing out of her way, breaking her articles, and forfeiting her insurance for the freightage of a few stores from the Falkland Islands. Painful and unsatisfactory as my report of the fate of the party is, I trust that it may be considered conclusive by their Lordships, and setting at rest any further anxiety on the part of their sorrowing friends.—I have, &c., (Signed) W. H. MOORSHEAD, Captain.

SOCIAL EFFECTS OF THE GOLD DISCOVERIES IN AUSTRALIA.

The daily papers publish several letters on this subject from residents in the colony to their friends in this country.

The following interesting communication addressed to the editor appeared in the *Times* of Wednesday last:—

Sir,—In case you may think that the following extracts from a letter written by my brother, now living at Melbourne, Port Phillip, might interest your readers, I beg to put them at your disposal. They relate, as you see, to the total revolution in society produced by the gold discoveries. The letter is dated December 21, 1851. In regard to the produce of the mines, he says—

"I have cross-examined numbers of labouring men, on whom I can depend, have seen their earnings at the mines, and have come to the conclusion (and which is confirmed by those who have resided up there among them to purchase extensively) that a fair working man can make full £1200 a year on the ground, clear of his expenses, at the present rate of food; that nine out of ten will do this readily, and some few here and there much more. Men have made as much as £10,000 in two months; four men divided about £40,000. When hundreds of thousands of mere labourers can do this, imagine the magnitude of the effects to be produced on the world."

The mines he represents to be inexhaustible for centuries. Nevertheless, he expresses his own desire to escape from the land of gold as soon as possible; and at this we need not wonder, as he is entirely left without any servant, obliged to groom his own horse, whilst his wife acts as cook and housemaid and nurse—in short, as maid of all work. He adds—

"Some curious anecdotes might be picked up out of the unnatural state of the labour market here. One which I heard lately from a member of our club was an odd one. The gentleman, a large sheep-owner, and not a small one either in his own estimation, or in that of his own shepherds before the gold revolution, being in great trouble about shearing his flocks, went to a party of shearers at the gold diggings to ask them to engage to shear his flock. He fancied in his innocence that by offering high wages they would come for a few days, and had fully made up his mind to give whatever they asked. He found the men lying indolently round their fire, and told his wishes. The men went aside and consulted with each other, and their speaker then advanced with gravity, and said they would do it. 'Well,' said our friend, 'let us have a written agreement,' and produced ink and paper. 'Now, what are the wages to put in?' 'All the wool' and on no other terms would they come: so he was going away in disgust; but they called him back, and he, thinking the men had relented, returned eagerly. The man then said, 'Master, we want a cook; and if you will take the place, we will give you 15s. a day.'"

"Yesterday," my brother also writes, "a friend of mine dined at a public table in a steamer. A man placed himself with a familiar air on his right hand at the table, and asked him to take wine, and remarked, 'A few weeks ago I had the honour of being your groom, sir; and as you are at the head of the table, I will support you.' My friend sent his own plate, on which he had secured some fowl, for potatoes; but the potato helper coolly took the plate for himself, remarking, 'I am not going to let this go again.' An agreeable country this to reside in!"

"We have ourselves entirely given up servants, doing all for ourselves; one by one they went off, and before going were so bad that we had, in fact, to wait on them, so we miss them the less. But I need not complain when our Governor, Mr. Latrobe, last week had to groom his own horse, feed it, &c.—a little fact I had got from a gentleman who had just called on him, and to whom he stated the circumstance, and that he was unable to keep a male servant."

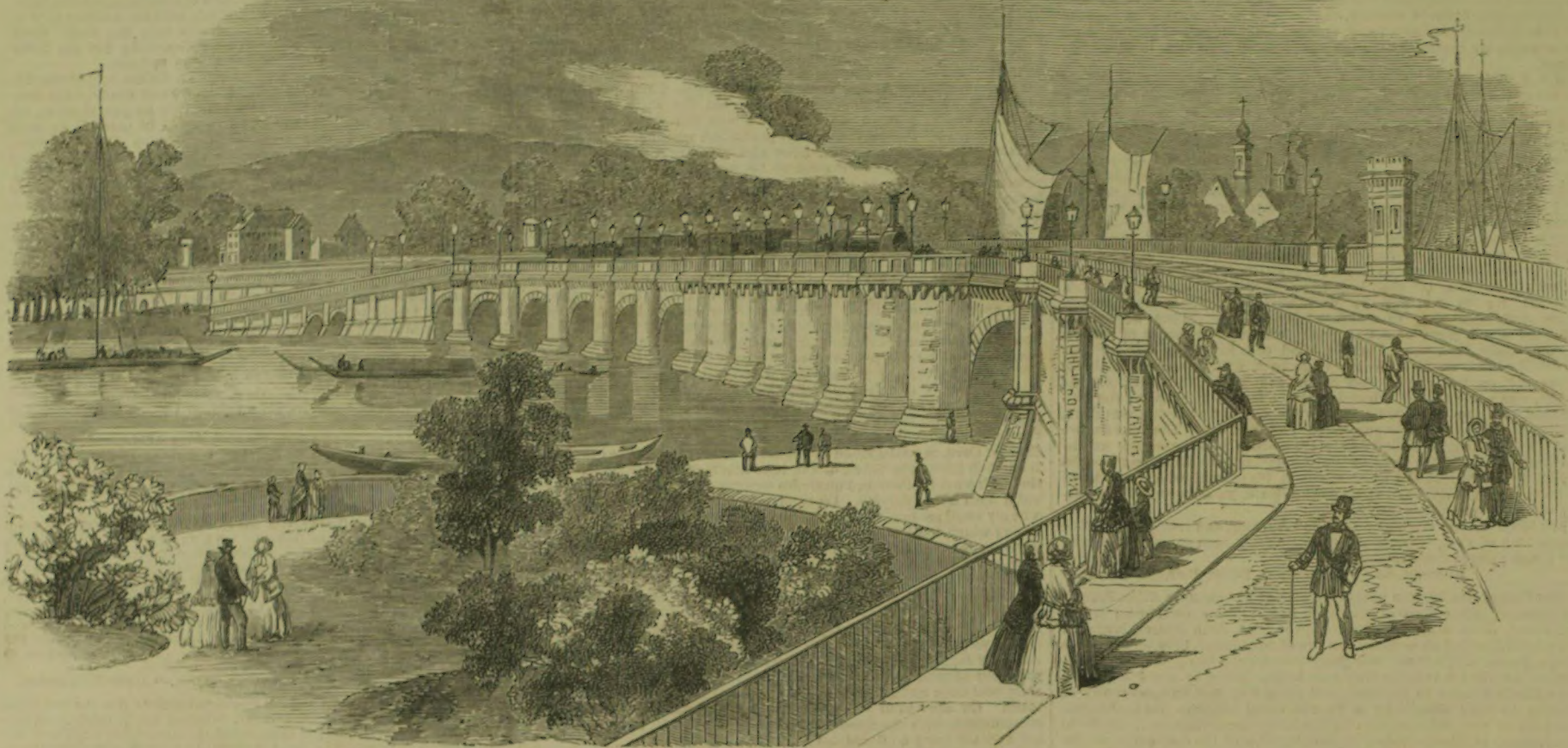
We need not be surprised that he shortly afterwards added, "Our poor Bishop, Governor, and, indeed, every one, looks fagged and worn to death."

Such facts as these should be well weighed by any gentleman unused to hard work, before he ventures to commit himself to the toils of the Australian El Dorado. I remain, yours obediently, ALIQUIB.

Cheam, Surrey, Tuesday, April 27.

It appears by advices from Adelaide, South Australia, dated Jan. 10, that the alleged discovery of gold in that portion of the Australian continent had turned out to be a fabrication. The Government Commissioners had a second time proceeded with Mr. G. M. Stephen, the party by whom the reward had been claimed, to the spot indicated, and upon testing the soil were unable to procure the smallest portion of metal. Upon a previous trial every spadeful had been found to yield gold, and the commissioners in their report consequently assert that pieces must have been introduced on that occasion for the purpose of deception. With regard to the general state of the country, it appears that the disorganisation caused by the departure of the inhabitants to Sydney and Port Phillip had been much exaggerated. Out of a population of 67,000 the total emigration was not more than 5000; and it is asserted that much of the prevailing commercial panic was to be attributed to the natural collapse of the worthless mining and building speculations which had been carried on for the past year or two.

* The Sketches above named could not be engraved in time for this week's ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS; but will be given next week, with additional details of the calamity.—Ed. I. L. N.



NEW RAILWAY AND GENERAL TRAFFIC BRIDGE AT DRESDEN.

PARIS FASHIONS FOR MAY.

DURING Longchamps the days were rather cold for the spring *toilettes* to present themselves in their full elegance; but the mild weather which succeeded has enabled us to anticipate the shapes and stuffs that will prevail this year. Bonnets are undergoing a slight change, very gradual and almost imperceptible; yet from one year to the other the difference is already very great. The shapes are small, a little sloped behind from the crown, but not falling so low as last year; the leaf is very open in front, but nevertheless tightens to the head; formerly the bonnet was worn rather on the shoulders than on the head. These shapes are common to *capotes*. *Taffetas* bonnets are no longer worn; *capotes de crêpe*, so much worn last year, are no longer in fashion.

La mode, the real mode of the year, is the straw bonnet. For the morning *toilette* the straw-work is of yellow and black mixed, and less openworked, lined with a simple ribbon, plaited at the inside of the leaf: a broad ribbon crosses the outside, sometimes placed quite straight and in all its breadth, two-thirds on the leaf, and one-third on the bottom; or, making the *fichu* a little at the bottom, it comes back, and, being plaited near the rim, it is tied underneath the chin, and terminates in broad strings. This is very simple for the morning, and has a certain

Scotch patterns, of very lively shades, on a white ground. Nothing has been changed in the shapes since last month, only that for light summer dresses, such as *barège mousseline*, the corsage is made plaited at the shoulders and at the waist. Moreover, the corsage of this kind of dress is terminated by a broad ribbon, which falls with large ends on the skirt: these ribbons are about four inches in breadth. The summer mantelets are in tulle, ornamented with velvet *galons*, very narrow, and terminated by flounces of lace; the form is rounded in front, and does not descend low behind.

THE ILLUSTRATIONS.—Dress of Valenciennes, Albanais pattern. Corsage with a *basque* skirt, ornamented with a ribbon to match the stripes of the flounces. Corsage closed in front like a riding-habit. Cap, à fond (the caul) de taffetas, with trimming of Malines lace. *Capote* in *crêpe*, mauve colour, with flowers. Mantelet black, ornamented with four velvet bands laid on flat, and running round, with deep fringe of silk. Dress of grey taffetas, with two flounces only, flower pattern. Bonnet with the back covered above the curtain, or with two long ends hanging on the shoulders: this is an especial novelty. Straw bonnet worked in lozenge shape, trimmed with a tuft of flowers, the border of the curtain ornamented with a straw trimming like the leaf of the bonnet. Straw bonnet of sewed open-work, bottom of taffetas. Cap with the caul of Brussels lace, with flat bows on the side, one large bow on the back. Mantelet of Indian mousseline, white, with three flat tucks on the border, and two flounces of mousseline, with festooned mitres.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE IN BERKSHIRE.

ON Saturday a most disastrous fire broke out at Harwell, a considerable village about six miles from Wantage, on the Wallingford road, about six miles west of the Didcot railway station. In consequence of the dry state of the weather and the materials of the buildings, being most part of them thatched, the flames raged with great fury. The wind was blowing fresh during the time, and the burning flakes were carried from one farm and cottage to the other, so that in the course of four or five hours the greater part of the village was in flames. Harwell extends nearly half a mile in length, and from one end to the other nearly every farm and cottage suffered: nine farms and twenty-three cottages are stated to have been consumed. The farmers had much trouble in saving their live stock; their stacks of hay and corn are totally consumed, together with their produce in the barns. It is a most lamentable thing to witness many of the poor cottagers who have lost their little all, and have no place of shelter; scarcely a house is left standing. On Monday portions of grain, and here and there a stack of corn and hay, were burning; and the stacks of chimneys, which remained standing amid dense volumes of smoke, gave the scene an awful appearance. Thousands of persons visited the ruins on Sunday from most of the surrounding towns and villages. We have not heard that any person has been burnt, but a great deal of plunder was committed. The fire is supposed to have been the work of an incendiary; it commenced at nine o'clock, at a straw rick belonging to Mr. Roby. The conflagration was not entirely subdued until nine farm premises, some of very great extent, and more than twenty dwelling-houses, were consumed. The loss is immense, and in many instances falls on poor persons, some of whom had invested their little property in cottages. It is hoped that prompt assistance will be afforded to the sufferers.

NEW RAILWAY AND GENERAL TRAFFIC BRIDGE AT DRESDEN.

THIS novel structure across the Elbe, which at once provides a railway viaduct and a bridge for general traffic, was designed by two engineers, named Lohse and Riedrich, in 1845, but has only just been completed; and was opened on the 19th of April, at nine o'clock in the morning, when their Majesties the King and Queen of Saxony, the members of the Royal family, the Ministers of State, the *corps diplomatique*, and an immense concourse of people in carriages and on foot, passed over the noble Bridge, which then received the name of "Marien-Brücke," in honour of her Majesty the Queen of Saxony.

A platform was raised at the end of the Bridge, in the Ostra Allée, in the Old Town, on which their Majesties took their station; when the King desired the principal persons who had been engaged in the direction of the building of the Bridge to approach, and in very flattering terms complimented them on the successful termination of their stupendous work, &c. His Majesty then conferred on, and handed to Herr von Craushaar, the Director of the Silesian and Bohemian State Railroads; Herr Lohse, Herr Peters, and Herr Riedrich, the engineers, the insignia of the Saxon order *pour le Mérite*.

This Bridge, which is a beautiful embellishment to the town, forms the last connecting link between the Atlantic, the North Sea, and the Adriatic, now that the difficulties of crossing the Simmering, in Styria, are overcome.

The accompanying Sketch shows the entrance to the two branches of the Bridge, taken from the New Town. The construction has been an engineering work of great difficulty, on account of the nature of the bed of the river. The ceremony of cutting the first turf took place April 26, 1846; so that the labour has occupied six years.



PARIS FASHIONS FOR MAY.

elegance of *bon goût* which will be appreciated. The edge of this ribbon is sometimes ornamented with a little fringe of lace or blonde, very narrow. More dressy bonnets are worn of *paille végétal* open-work, endlessly varied. The linings are rose, white, blue, cerise, lilac, green, or *groseilles*; they are also ornamented with flowers in tufts, or falling in clusters, with little plumes, with black lace, gauze, taffetas, in the most graceful and freshest combinations possible. We have seen a flower a little detached above the others which compose the *tour de tête*, and only on one side; but this studied and pretentious style is, we hope, destined to a short career.

Rôles.—In addition to the dresses of last month, we have some of such marked patterns that we scarce know who will dare wear them. They have been a good deal worn on the stage by the most celebrated actresses; perhaps they will remain the undisturbed property of these ladies, without finding their way into the *salons*. They are plain dresses in taffetas, with pattern flounces worn into the stuff. The ground of the dress is plain and dark, such as black or *marron*; the flounces are of



PARIS FASHIONS FOR MAY.

RARE BIRD SHOT ON THE FIRTH OF FORTH.

On the 2d ult., Oliver Colt, Esq., of Rownhams, Hants, whilst shooting on the Firth of Forth, had the good fortune to bag, with various other wild-fowl, a beautiful specimen of the Great-billed or Surf Scoter (*Pidemia perspicillata*, Flem.), shot in Musselburgh Bay. The bird, which is very rare, has recently been exhibited to the Royal Physical Society at Edinburgh. It is an adult male; the plumage black, with a round white spot on the forehead; and another, somewhat triangular, on the back of the neck: the bill is curiously dilated, is of a reddish orange colour, with a black patch on its base at each side, and in front of this a bluish-white spot. The bird is about twenty-one inches in length, and was easily distinguished by the above striking characters. Very few instances of the capture of the Surf Scoter have been recorded. Its native habitat is North America, where it is abundant; and Dr. Smith remarked to the Physical Society, that this, so far as he was aware, was the second time the bird had been captured in the Firth of Forth, and the third or fourth time it had been observed in Britain. Dr. Smith stated that he had been enabled to exhibit the bird by the politeness of Mr.



GREAT-BILLED OR SURF-SCOTER SHOT IN MUSSELBURGH BAY,
FIRTH OF FORTH.

Dickson, one of the firm of John Dickson, and Co., gunmakers, Prince's-street, Edinburgh.

HOMERTON COLLEGE.

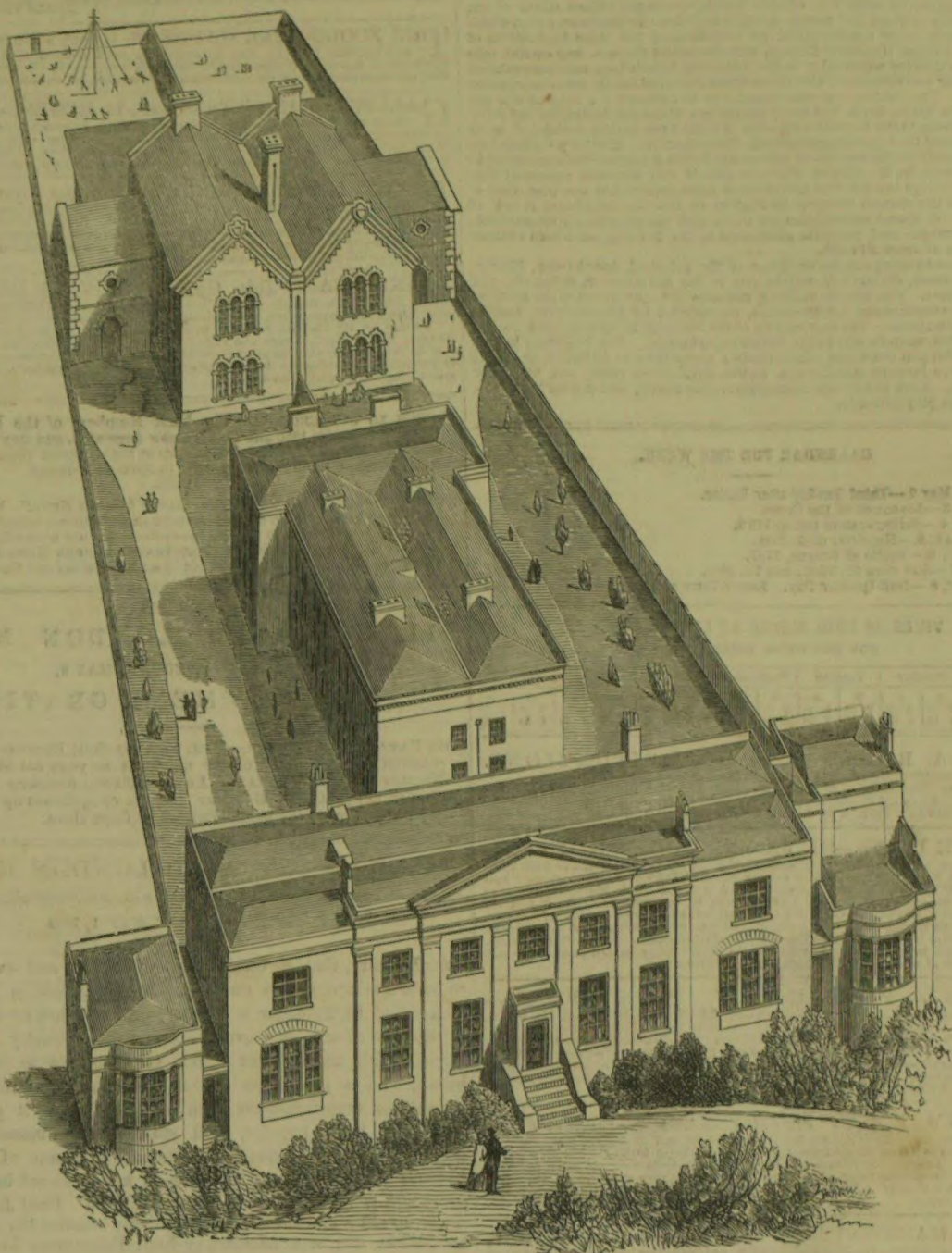
On Tuesday week, April 20, the inauguration services of the Training Institution of the Congregational Board of Education took place at the premises of the board, in Homerton, and were most numerously attended. The proceedings, after the introductory services, were opened by an inaugural discourse by the Rev. John Harris, D.D., Principal of New College, London. This was Dr. Harris's first appearance in the field of education on the principles of the board. Mr. Samuel Morley, the treasurer, presided, and conducted the business with characteristic spirit and urbanity. To a considerable extent the chief localities of England were represented by the company; and the mighty metropolis was not wholly wanting. Dr. Harris's oration was the object of intense and universal admiration. The rev. doctor drew attention to the leading characteristics of the movement which led to the present result, showing the objects to be education, the special training of the educator, education inseparable from religion, religious education sustained by voluntary or social benevolence, parental responsibility, and the rendering of the day-school auxiliary to the Sunday-school, and especially to the Christian Church. Such are the heads of the oration, which is reported in full in the *British Banner* of April 21. At the close of Dr. Harris's address, a hymn was sung; and the Rev. John Kennedy concluded the service with prayer.

The company then dispersed in groups over the buildings, minutely inspecting the school premises. The entire arrangements frequently called forth expressions of the highest admiration.

An excellent cold collation was provided in the College at three o'clock, which was served in two of the largest rooms in the building; Samuel Morley, Esq., presiding at one table, and John Crossley, Esq., at the other.

The tables having been removed, both parties assembled in one room, and the business of the day proceeded, under the presidency of Mr. Morley, who, in his introductory address, stated, as a most hopeful circumstance, that they had been able to purchase and extend the building in which they were then assembled at a cost of £10,000; and that they took possession of it without one shilling of debt. The chairman concluded by tendering the thanks of the meeting to Dr. Harris, who acknowledged the same, characterising this voluntary project as one of the greatest movements of the present age.

The company were then addressed by Mr. Milligan, M.P.; Edward Baines, Esq., of Leeds; Josiah Conder, Esq.; Dr. Campbell, Dr. Cox, and Professor William Smith. Mr. Conder alluded to the many pleasing reminiscences connected with Homerton College, and the joy which would be generally felt that the building had not become alienated from the congregational body. It would be consecrated to purposes quite in harmony with those to which it had been devoted for nearly a hundred years. (Hear, hear.) He strongly advocated religious education, bringing forward instances in proof of its great superiority over any mere secular system. He was an old warrior in the cause, and it was his duty to oppose the bill of Lord Brougham. (Hear, hear.) They had been battling this subject for thirty years; and although the war had not ceased, great advances had been made, and there was every prospect that a larger



HOMERTON COLLEGE: NORMAL SCHOOLS OF THE CONGREGATIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION

number of men holding right views on this subject would be returned to Parliament at the general election than had ever yet been elected at one time since the House of Commons had existed. (Cheers.)

At six o'clock an adjournment took place from the College to the school-rooms, at the bottom of the gardens, where tea had been provided; this having been disposed of, the company assembled in the large room, when John Crossley, Esq., was unanimously called to the chair, and addressed the company. He was followed by Mr. Conder, who spoke on "Home Education among the Puritans and early Nonconformists;" the Rev. T. Scates, of Silcoates; the Rev. Joseph Viney; the Rev. R. Redpath, of the United Presbyterian Church; Mr. Baines, who spoke upon "The Evils of Free Education;" and the Rev. J. C. Harrison, on the "Educational Responsibilities of Parents." The Doxology having been sung, the company separated.

For the full report of the proceedings, the reader is referred to the *Patriot* and the *British Banner*.

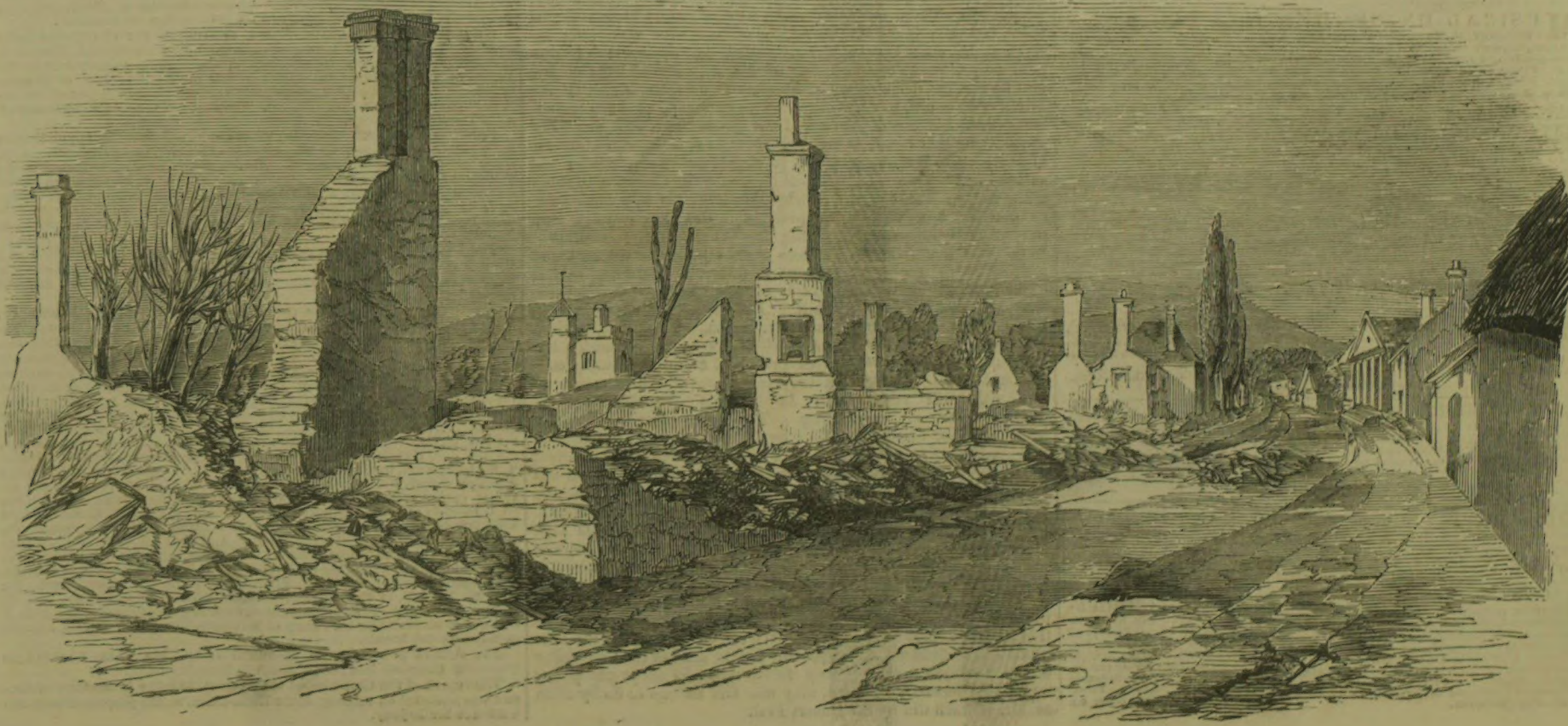
Homerton College occupies the site of a mansion wherein, nearly a century ago, the Rev. S. Hawtyn resided and kept a school. About the year 1768, the society formed in 1730 for the education of candidates for the Protestant Dissenting Ministry (known as the King's Head Society, from the place at which the committee met) removed here their seminary from Mile-End, purchased the copyhold, and fitted up the mansion as a residence for the principal and the students. The Congregational Fund Board had, as early as 1695, granted aid to young men preparing for the Dissenting Ministry, placing their students under the tutorship and domestic care of various pastors. In 1754, this Board united with the King's Head Society in support of the academy of which Dr. Conder, Dr. Gibbons, and Dr. Walker were the first tutors. About the same time (1756) a society was formed for educating young men for the ministry in the West Riding, with which originated the institution, first at Heckmond-

wicke (from 1756 to 1783), under the Rev. Mr. Scott, and subsequently at North ovram and at Rotherham. The Fund Board supported also a theological academy, which was first established under the Rev. J. Lavington, at St. Mary Ottery, in 1752. But Homerton Academy (as it was called) is believed to have been the earliest foundation of a collegiate character among the Independent Dissenters.

On the death of Dr. Walker, who had sustained the office of classical tutor for nearly thirty years, in 1770, the Rev. Daniel Fisher, of Warminster, was chosen as his successor, and became resident tutor; Dr. Conder wishing to relinquish the charge of presiding over the domestic establishment. On the decease of Dr. Conder, May 30, 1781, Dr. Fisher was raised to the theological chair; and Dr. Benjamin Davies, of Abergavenny, was chosen classical tutor. Dr. Gibbons, the biographer of Watts, and author of several other works, survived his first colleagues till February 22, 1785. He was succeeded in his tutorship by the Rev. Dr. Henry Mayo, who was removed by death in 1793, when the office of third tutor was superseded by other arrangements.

Dr. Davies having resigned his office as classical tutor in 1787, owing to domestic affliction, the Rev. John Fell, of Thaxted, became his successor and resident tutor. He died in September, 1797, and was succeeded, as classical and resident tutor, by the Rev. John Berry, of West Bromwich, who, three years afterwards, resigned the office on accepting the pastoral charge of the congregational church at Camberwell. The Rev. John Pye Smith had at this time but recently finished his studies at Maesborough College; but, young as he was to be placed at the head of an academic institution, he had already distinguished himself by his attainments as a linguist, a mathematician, and a theologian, and he received the vacant appointment. On the 16th of January, 1801, Mr. Pye Smith delivered to the students his inaugural address; and, in 1806, was permanently appointed divinity tutor.

In 1822 a new building was erected, immediately behind the site of the old



RUINS OF THE FIRK, ON SATURDAY LAST AT WARWELL NEAR ABINGDON.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

mansion. The total cost of the edifice was £2453. The new building received the name of Homerton College.

For fifty years (up to 1850) Dr. Pye Smith presided over the institution, latterly in association with Dr. William Smith, the accomplished editor of the "Dictionaries of Greek and Roman Antiquities," &c. In that year, a plan which had long been under consideration, for consolidating the three foundations of Homerton College, Highbury College, and Cavendish College, was carried into effect; and thus the termination of the College as a separate public career was coincident with the relinquishment of the College as a separate institution. The building was consequently to be disposed of; but a strong resistance was felt on the part of many supporters of the old institution and other attached friends to the interest with which he had been so long associated, to its being alienated from the Congregational Denomination. Highbury College had been purchased for the purpose of converting it into a normal training-school in connexion with the Established Church; and it was therefore suggested that Homerton College could not be devoted to a more appropriate use than that of being made the normal training institution of the Congregational Board of Education. A liberal subscription for this object was accordingly commenced, and the purchase and requisite alterations of the building have been effected at an outlay of about £11,000.

In the front building are the residence of the principal, board-room, library, and lecture-room, dining-hall, apartments of the housekeeper, infirmary, and domestic offices. The centre building contains the apartments of the mistress of the female department, lecture-rooms, dormitories for fifty students, lavatories, and bath-rooms. The eastern side of the building is appropriated to the male, and the western side to the female departments. The buildings in the rear are model and practicing school-rooms; comprising an infirmary or infant school-room, a juvenile school-room, an industrial school-room, and an upper school-room. Each has several commodious class-rooms, and behind the building are large play-grounds.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, May 2.—Third Sunday after Easter.
MONDAY, 3.—Invention of the Cross.
TUESDAY, 4.—Spring equinox taken, 1799.
WEDNESDAY, 5.—Napoleon died, 1821.
THURSDAY, 6.—Battle of Prague, 1757.
FRIDAY, 7.—Sun rises 4h. 23m., sets 7h. 30m.
SATURDAY, 8.—Half-Quarter Day. Easter Term ends.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE, FOR THE WEEK ENDING MAY 6, 1852.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
0 25 10	0 14 1	0 3 15	0 22 30	0 11 45	0 1 0	0 55 15

OPERA BOXES IN THE BEST SITUATIONS.
ORCHESTRA STALLS, AND PIT TICKETS, on Moderate Terms.
At MR. MITCHELL'S ROYAL LIBRARY, 33, OLD BOND-STREET.
FRENCH PLAYS, every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.
PRIVATE BOXES by the Night for every Theatre in London.

FRENCH PLAYS.—ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—First Appearance of the eminent Comedienne Mlle ROSE CHERI and Monsieur NUMA, on MONDAY next, MAY 31, in the favourite comedy of GENEVIEVE, and two entirely new pieces, entitled "Brutus, L'Ami de César," and "Midi à l'heure."—Mr. Mitchell begs also to announce that the services of Monsieur LAFONT will be continued until the end of the season, and that he will appear with Mlle Rose Cheri in the new petite comedy of "Brutus, L'Ami de César," on Monday next. Doors will be opened at seven o'clock, and the performance commences at half-past seven.—Boxes, 6s; Pit, 2s; Amphitheatre, 2s. Private boxes, seats, and tickets, may be obtained at Mr. Mitchell's Royal Library, 33, Old Bond-street, and at the Box-office of the Theatre daily, from Eleven till Five o'clock.

ROYAL PRINCESS' THEATRE.—Under the Management of Mr. CHARLES KEAN.—MONDAY, MAY 3d, will be performed the CORICAN BROTHERS, and the new Fairy Easter Piece, Tuesday, 4th: The Corican Brothers, and the new Fairy Easter Piece. Wednesday, 5th: Shakespeare's Historical Play of King John, and the new Fairy Easter Piece. Thursday, 6th: The Corican Brothers, and the new Fairy Easter Piece. Friday, 7th: The Corican Brothers, a Farce, and the new Fairy Easter Piece. Saturday, 8th: The Corican Brothers, a Farce, and the new Fairy Easter Piece.

ASTLEY'S ROYAL AMPHITHEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. BATTY.—On MONDAY, MAY 3d, and during the Week, will be presented, for the 34th time, the gorgeous Equestrian Spectacle of BONAPARTE IN EGYPT; or, the Battle of Aboukir, to be succeeded by Mr. Batt's classic and imitable ROMAN IN THE ARENA, displaying talent of the highest order, both native and foreign. The whole concluding with a popular AFTERPIECE.—Box-office open from 11 till 4 daily. Stage-Manager, Mr. Loder.

ROYAL MARIONETTE THEATRE, ADELAIDE STREET.—WEST STRAND.—On MONDAY, MAY 3, and every Evening during the week at Eight o'clock, the HAPPY MANAGER, a Dramatic Difficulty, in one act. After which, first time, an original Burlesque, called the SPIRIT OF PUNCH; or, the Arcadian Brothers. To be followed by the astonishing performance of an extraordinary Troupe of Ebony Marionettes. To conclude with ALADDIN and the WONDERFUL LAMP. A morning performance on Wednesday, May 5th, and Saturday, May 8th, at Three o'clock. Doors open half an hour before each performance. Private Boxes, 5s; to be had at the Box-office of the Theatre daily, from Eleven till Five; and of all the principal Librarians.

MISS KATE HICKSON (Pupil of Manuel Garcia) begins at the NEW BETHOVEN ROOMS, 27, Queen Anne-street, on FRIDAY, MAY 31st, when the most eminent talent will be engaged.—Reserved Seats, half-a-guinea; Tickets, 7s 6d each; to be had of Miss Kate Hickson, 72, Welbeck-street; Cramer, Beale, and Co, 301, Regent-street; Robert Oliver, Old Bond-street; and all principal music shops.

MR. BRINLEY RICHARDS' FIRST PERFORMANCE (this season) of CLASSICAL and MODERN PIANOFORTE MUSIC will take place at the HANOVER-SQUARE ROOMS, WEDNESDAY MORNING, MAY 5. Subscribers to the Three Concerts, One Guinea; Single Tickets, Half-a-Guinea. Unreserved Seats, 5s; Reserved Seats, 2s 6d. To be had of the Musicians, and of Mr. Richards, 6, Somerset-street, Portman-square.

MR. LUCAS respectfully announces that the THIRD MUSICAL EVENING will take place at his Residence, 54, BERNERS-STREET, on WEDNESDAY NEXT, MAY 5, at Half-past Eight o'clock.—Programme: Quartets, No. 2, Van Bree; No. 3, Haydn; No. 1, Mozart; Trio, Op. 97, and Variations, Beethoven. Performers: Mr. Lucas, and Mr. Biagioni; Violin, Mr. Williams; Violoncello, Mr. Lucas; Pianoforte, Her Father. Family and single tickets to be obtained of Messrs ADDISON and HOLLIER, 210, Regent-street; and of Mr. Lucas, 54, Berners-street.

MR. AGUILAR respectfully announces that his ANNUAL CONCERT will take place at the HANOVER-SQUARE ROOMS, on WEDNESDAY EVENING, MAY 5. Vocalists: Miss Clara Novello, Mlle Jetty Treffz, Herr Reichart, and Herr Formis. Violin, Signor Ricci; Contrabasso, Signor Battistini; pianoforte, Mr. Aguilar. The orchestra will be numerous and efficient. Leader, Mr. Willy; Accompanist, Herr Kuchler; Conductor, Herr Asschütz. Two of Mr. Aguilar's latest compositions—a Grand Allegro Maestoso for piano, with orchestra; and an Overture, entitled "Alphons"—will be produced.—Tickets, 7s; to be had of the principal music publishers, and of Mr. AGUILAR, 68, Upper Norton-street, Portland-road. Reserved seats, 10s 6d, to be had of Mr. Aguilar only.

MUSICAL UNION.—H.R.H. Prince Albert, Patron.—TUESDAY, MAY 4.—WILLIAMS ROOMS.—Half-past Three.—Quartet (Posthumous) D Minor—Schubert. Trio, No. 1—Mendelssohn. Quartet in A, No. 3—Beethoven. Piano: Sales on a Melody by Schubert, and "Les Patineurs," from the "Frochot," arranged by Lévi. Eventuals—Joachim (first performance in England since 1848), Moritz, Oury, and Piat. Pianists: Mlle Ployel (her first appearance at the Musical Union since 1848).—Single Tickets, 10s 6d each; to be had only at CHAMBER and Co's, Regent-street.

EXETER-HALL.—DANIEL, an Oratorio (sixth chapter), by GEORGE LARK, FRIDAY, MAY 31. Also Mendelssohn's Psalm 55, and Weber's Prelude of John's Baptism. Tickets, 1s (all first time). Vocalists: Messrs Stewart, Fulton, Messrs Sims, Rogers, Bousfield, H. Buckland, Leslie, and H. Phillips; with band and chorus of 500 performers. Organist, Mr. Brownsmith; Leader, Mr. Willy. Tickets, 3s, 5s, and 10s 6d; to be had at Addison's, 210, Regent-street, and all Musicians.

EXETER-HALL.—WEDNESDAY CONCERTS.—Braham, Anna Zorr Jetty de Treffz, Staudigel, Belcham, Rivoli, and Bouteiller. (Braham a Last Appearance.)—On WEDNESDAY next, MAY 3d, the FIFTH of the LONDON WEDNESDAY CONCERTS, when the above unrivalled artists, together with others of celebrity, will appear.—Tickets, 1s; reserved seats, 4s; stalls, numbered, 7s. May be had of Mr. ALLENROTH, 15, New Bond-street; and of all Musicians.

MR. ALBERT SMITH'S ASCENT OF MONT BLANC.—Illustrated by Mr. W. BEVELL. EVERY EVENING, at Eight o'clock.—Stalls numbered and reserved (which can be taken from a plan at the Hall every day from Eleven to Four), 5s; area, 2s; gallery, 1s. Children: stalls, 2s; area, 1s. A MORNING PERFORMANCE, at Half-past Two, Thursday, and Saturday, at Three o'clock. ROYAL HALL, Piccadilly.

ROBIN'S SOIREE.—Immense Success of his last Wonders, and his Fourth and entirely New Programme.—Every Evening, at a Quarter past Eight o'clock precisely, Robin will repeat his imitable entertainments; and every Wednesday a Morning Performance, at Half-past Two, Children under ten years of age, half-price.—Places may be secured at Mr. Mitchell's Royal Library, Bond-street; Messrs Royal Library, St. James's-street; Messrs Rivers, Andrews, and all the principal Librarians; and at the Box-office of the Theatre, 234, Piccadilly, opposite the Haymarket.

MUSICAL NOVELTY at the HOLY LAND DIORAMA.—EGYPTIAN HALL.—HERKUP CHANTS and MELODIES, illustrated by a full choir, under the direction of MESSRS KRAUSE and DE FEHER, who sing in 34 different languages, and who will introduce, after the Diorama, his unique entertainment, "A Musical Journey Round the World," being the Music and Melodies of every land in every language. Daily at 3 and 8. Admission, 1s, 6d, and 3d.—Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—BACHHOFF-NER and DEFFRIES' NEW PATENT POLYTECHNIC GAS FIRE will be EXHIBITED and LECTURED ON on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at Half-past Three; and on Tuesday and Thursday Evenings at Nine. Lectures on Music, by George Buckland, Esq. Illustrated by Old English and Patriotic Songs, every evening, except Saturday, at Eight o'clock. A Lecture by J. H. Poyser, Esq. on Geyser and Appell's Patent Paper for the prevention of Fire and Forgery by the Asiatic Process. Lectures by Mr. Crisp on the Britannia Tubular Bridge. Lectures on Volcanic Eruptions, by Mr. G. B. Sowerby. Illustrations. Microscope. Diver and Diving-Bell, &c.—Admission, 1s; Schools and Children under ten years of age, half-price.

THE NEW SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.—The Eighteenth Annual EXHIBITION of this Society is now OPEN at their GALLERY, 53, Pall Mall, near St. James' Palace, from Nine o'clock till dark. Admission, 1s. JAMES FAHET, Secretary.

THE ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS, Regent's Park, are OPEN to VISITORS DAILY. The Collection now contains upwards of Fifteen Hundred Specimens; a fine series of Antelopes having been added to the Hippopotamus, Elephant, and other rare animals, during the winter. Admission, 1s; on Mondays, 6d.

GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION, 14, REGENT-STREET.—Now exhibiting Daily, a Grand Moving Diorama, illustrating the WELLINGTON CAMPAIGNS IN INDIA, PORTUGAL, and SPAIN, concluding with the BATTLE OF WATERLOO. Afternoon, Three o'clock; Evening, Eight o'clock. Admission, 1s; Stalls, 2s 6d; and reserved seats, 3s. Doors open half an hour before each representation.

PRINCE OF WALES' BAZAAR; or, the Crystal Palace of REGENT-STREET, 207 to 209, and COSMORAMA.—This beautiful Bazaar, fitted up in a style of elegance never before attempted in this or any other country, is OPEN DAILY, from Ten till Six, and contains various useful and Fancy Articles in great variety; together with a selected Aviary of British and Foreign Birds; and also a fine GALLERY OF PAINTINGS for SALE, by the Old and Modern Masters.—Admission Free.

HINDOSTAN.—This GRAND MOVING DIORAMA is NOW OPEN DAILY, at 12, 3, and 8 o'clock, at the ASIATIC GALLERY, Baker-street Bazaar, Portman-square. Admission, 1s; stalls, 2s; reserved seats, and 3s 6d. Painted by Mr. Phillips, with the figures and animals by Mr. Louis Haghe, and the shipping by Mr. Knell, a rare and harmonious conjunction of talent has been brought to bear for the production of this gorgeous scenery.—The Literary Gazette.—"The Diorama of Hindostan" is confessedly the most extraordinary exhibition that has appeared in the present century.—Morning Herald.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.—The back Numbers of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS for 1850 and 1851 are now Reprinted, and may be obtained by order of all Booksellers and Newsagents at the published price. The Numbers previous to 1850 can be had only in Parts or Volumes.

NEW READING-CASE FOR THE "ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS."—We recommend our Subscribers, who are desirous to have their Numbers bound at the expiration of each half-year, to provide themselves with our convenient and elegant Reading-Case, for protecting the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS during perusal. The price is 2s., and it may be had of all Booksellers and Newsagents.

WITH THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS OF NEXT SATURDAY, MAY 8, A SUPPLEMENT GRATIS.

THE PATAGONIAN MISSION.—Next week we shall Engrave the Sketches received from the writer of the narrative at page 331 of the present Number of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, detailing the death by starvation of Captain Gardiner and his companions upon the Patagonian Mission to the neighbourhood of Cape Horn.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, MAY 1, 1852.

The Ministry, that, on coming into office, felt and avowed itself to be in a minority, has unexpectedly found itself in a majority. It seems to be no longer a Ministry on sufferance or of necessity, in default of any and every other, but a Ministry on its own merits, with an obedient House of Commons to work in its behalf, and a prosperous career before it. And how has the marvellous transformation been effected? Has it propounded any new, bold, popular, and statesmanlike measure? Not one. Lord John Russell has been the agent of its good fortune; and the measure on which it has achieved its victory is one which it inherited from its predecessors. Lord John Russell threw up office unnecessarily and pettishly because the principle of his Militia Bill was affirmed by Lord Palmerston in a manner somewhat stronger than was pleasant or convenient, and has opposed the present Government for bringing in a bill very similar to his own. The result has been the disgust of all sides of the House, a discomfiture of the Liberal party almost amounting to a break-up, and a movement in favour of the present Ministry by all those impartial politicians who dislike factiousness, and who think the good government of this country of some what more importance than the personal vanity or pretension of any man or any set of men—in Parliament or in Downing-street. Some people go through the world by the willing help of their friends, and others by the involuntary assistance of their foes. The Ministry of Lord Derby and Mr. Disraeli may have something for which to thank its Protectionist friends; but the opposition of Lord John Russell has proved of far greater service in strengthening its position than anything the Ministers themselves or their avowed friends have either done or said.

But the position of parties in the House of Commons is remarkable and peculiar. A Minister resigned, whose principles were in the ascendant, who was backed by a working majority, and who was supported in all the fundamental portions of his fiscal, social, and general policy by the bulk of the upper and middle, and nearly the whole of the working classes; and a Ministry came into office whose long-avowed principles were in the course of abandonment even by its own members, which was not supported by a majority in the House or out of it, and that had no single prestige in its favour. And for all this Lord John Russell is answerable, for, whether it turn out for good or for evil, it may safely be said that it was his Lordship alone who did it. There was no necessity why he should have resigned office, but he resigned it. There was no necessity why, after resigning, he should have recommended an opponent of diametrically opposite opinions; but he did so, overlooking the fact that he was not defeated on a Free-trade question, and that the Minister he ought, in strict constitutional practice, to have recommended to his Sovereign was Lord Palmerston, and not Lord Derby. Neither can it be said that, now Lord John Russell is out of office, there is a necessity why he should resume it again; and yet his Lordship acts and speaks as if there were. He seems to think that, having made Lord Derby Minister, his sole business is to unmake him as fast as possible. But the country and the great party—superior alike to Whigs, Tories, and Protectionists—that great party which desires good Government and freedom for the people to work and to thrive, is beginning at last to be fully convinced that there is no necessity whatever for the leadership of Lord John Russell. Like the late Sir Robert Peel, his Lordship has broken up a party. But, unlike that illustrious statesman, he has broken it up, not for the sake of the country, but for the sake of his own wounded pride and that of his family connexions. We do not intend to anticipate, however, that much, if any, evil will result from Lord John Russell's extraordinary course of proceeding. The new Parliament will bring together many new men; new alliances and combinations will be formed, and a new leader will be found for the great Free-trade and Liberal-Conservative party. But what is as curious as anything else in the present position of state affairs, is the fact that no less a personage than the Right Hon. Benjamin Disraeli, Chancellor of the Exchequer, seems to be aspiring to this high post. He disavows any intention to restore the Corn-Laws, and avows, at the same time, his conviction that the great defect in Lord John Russell's Reform Bill of 1832 was, that it did not sufficiently enfranchise the working classes! Such a conversion, if it takes place, will be as remarkable as the abandonment of Protection by Sir Robert Peel in 1846. We can only hope, for the sake of the Prime Minister, and especially for the sake of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, that if they really mean to adopt the policy which they formerly opposed, they will find no one to do by them as Mr. Disraeli did by Sir Robert Peel.

COURT AND HAUT TON.

THE COURT AT BUCKINGHAM PALACE.

The festivities of the Court have kept the Queen and her Royal Consort actively engaged during the past week. On Friday, the 23d ult., her Majesty entertained at dinner the Duchess of Sutherland and Lady Constance Leveson Gower, the Marquis and Marchioness of Westminster, and the Earl Grosvenor, and a distinguished party of the relations of the Sutherland and Grosvenor families, in celebration of the matrimonial alliance since solemnised in the Royal presence at the Chapel Royal.

On Monday morning the Queen and the Prince, with the Royal children, went to the Gallery of Illustration, in Regent-street, and viewed the new Diorama illustrating the campaigns of the Duke of Wellington. In the afternoon her Majesty and his Royal Highness went to Claremont to pay a visit to the Countess de Neully and the French Royal family; and in the evening the Queen and the Prince honoured the Princess' Theatre with their presence.

On Tuesday her Majesty and the Prince Consort went to the Lyceum Theatre, to witness the new drama called "A Chain of Events."

On Wednesday morning the Queen and the Prince went, in company with the Duchess of Kent, to the Chapel Royal, to witness the marriage of the Lady Constance Leveson Gower and the Earl Grosvenor. The Earl of Derby had an audience of the Queen during the afternoon; and in the evening her Majesty had a large dinner party, at which the Duchess of Kent and Lord and Lady John Russell were among the guests.

On Thursday her Majesty held her third Drawingroom for the present season at St. James's Palace.

The Countess of Charlemont has relieved the Countess of Desart in her duties as Lady of the Redchamber-in-Waiting to her Majesty. Lord Polworth has relieved Earl Talbot in his duties as Lord-in-Waiting to her Majesty.

THE DRAWINGROOM.

The Queen held a Drawingroom on Thursday afternoon at St. James's Palace. Her Majesty and Prince Albert, attended by the Royal suite, arrived from Buckingham Palace soon after two o'clock.

His serene Highness Prince Nicholas of Nassau attended the Drawingroom. The Queen wore a train of pink moire antique silk, trimmed with white blonde and white roses and acacias; the petticoat was of white satin, trimmed with white tulle and wreaths of white roses and acacias.

Her Majesty's headdress was composed of white roses and acacias, ornamented with diamonds.

The diplomatic circle having been introduced, several presentations took place. The general circle was very numerous attended, and a great many young members of the aristocracy made their debut on the occasion.

The dresses were remarkable for their splendour and beauty.

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, attended by Baroness de Smet, went to Claremont on Monday, to pay a visit of congratulation to the Countess de Neully, on the return of her natal day.

The Duke and Duchess of Northumberland gave a magnificent entertainment on Saturday evening last to a family party of forty distinguished guests, in celebration of the then approaching marriage of their youthful relatives Earl Grosvenor and Lady Constance Leveson Gower. The Duke and Duchess of Norfolk gave a similar entertainment on Monday evening.

The Countess of Hardwicke had a brilliant assembly on Thursday evening, at the noble Earl's mansion, in St. James's-square.

Miss Coutts gave a grand ball on Monday night, at her mansion, in Stratton-street. The reunion was attended by upwards of 600 members of the aristocracy. Miss Coutts will have another ball on Monday next.

MARRIAGES IN HIGH LIFE.—The marriage of the Lady Constance Leveson Gower with Earl Grosvenor took place on Wednesday last, at the Chapel Royal, in the presence of her Majesty and the Prince Consort, her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, and a distinguished party of the aristocracy. As we purpose illustrating this interesting ceremony, from actual drawings made on the spot, in our next Number, we defer for the present any descriptive details. The marriage of Sir Watkin Williams Wynn with Miss Marie Wynn, daughter of the Right Hon. Sir Henry Wynn, K.C.B., and niece of Lord Carlington, took place at St. James's Church, Piccadilly, on Wednesday last. Lady Carlington gave a grand breakfast on the occasion at Whitehall.

THE DANISH SUCCESSION.—The first Conference of the Plenipotentiaries appointed to settle this important question was held on Wednesday, at the Foreign-office. It was attended by the Ministers of all the Powers who signed the former protocol on the subject, with the addition of the Prussian Minister. The proceedings were of a purely preliminary nature, but it is understood that a second conference will shortly be held, at which the question will be fully entered into. To this announcement we can only add our hope that none of those complications which have caused the regulation of the succession to the Danish Crown to appear an almost interminable matter may again occur to hinder the speedy settlement of the question in a manner at once satisfactory to the great European Powers, and consistent with that freedom of choice which is the undoubted right of Denmark.—Times.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

OXFORD.—A convocation was held on Wednesday for the purpose of electing two scholars on Mr. Viner's foundation. There were four candidates to fill the vacancies. The successful ones are—Joseph William Chitty, of Balliol College, and Henry Mitchell Hull, of University College. Both these gentlemen are registered as first-class men. The scholarships are tenable for ten years, stipend £30 per annum. Mr. Viner, by will, dated 1755, left about £12,000 to establish a professorship, and endow fellowships and scholarships of the common law.—At a meeting of Heads of Houses, held on Tuesday, the Rev. William Thompson, M.A., Fellow and Tutor of Queen's College (author of "Outline of the Laws of Thought"), was chosen to be Bampton Lecturer for the ensuing year.

FRIEND OF THE CLERGY.—This society held its second anniversary festival at the London Tavern on Wednesday; Sir W. P. Wood in the chair. In the course of the evening it was stated that the society had relieved 83 necessitous clergymen, 2 wives, 25 widows, 39 daughters, and several pensioners, to the amount in all of £1237 10s. 8d., besides electing 10 pensioners, who would receive together £105 a year. They had now 92 candidates on the general object, and the applications on the special object were most numerous. The subscriptions amounted to the enormous sum of £5017, including 600 guineas from John Lord, Esq., and 100 guineas from the chairman.

DIOCESE OF GLOUCESTER.—At a meeting of the clergy and laity of this diocese, held on Wednesday in the large room of the Bell Inn, Gloucester, in compliance with a resolution adopted at the meeting recently held in the Hanover-square Rooms, on the subject of the periodical holding of diocesan synod, after some opposition, resolutions were agreed to in favour of the revival of synodical action in the Church. The Rev. Mr. Collins (of the diocese of Ripon) occupied the chair.

PREFECTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS.—The following appointments and preferences have recently been made:—Colonial Secretary: The Rev. H. B. Macartney to Melbourne, Australia. Hon. Canonry: Rev. W. H. Parker to the Cathedral Church of Norwich. Minor Canonry: Rev. W. W. Gibbon to Bristol Cathedral. Rectory: Rev. W. D. Fellows to Nether Wallop, Hampshire. Vicarages: Rev. R. West to Tenbury, in Worcestershire; Rev. W. Bulmer to Frystone Ferry, near Ferrybridge, Yorkshire; Rev. T. Greenland to Wenhaston, in Suffolk.

The Lord Chancellor has presented the Rev. G. A. P. Linskill, M.A., chaplain to Lord Dinorben, late curate of Stanhope, Durham, to the rectory of Bicknor, near Sittingbourne, rendered vacant by the death of the Rev. Edmund Stanley Ireland, M.A.

The Bishop of London has appointed the Rev. Charles Mackenzie, M.A., rector of St. Benet, Gracechurch-street, and head master of Queen Elizabeth's Grammar-school, Southwark, to a prebendal stall in St. Paul's Cathedral.

TESTIMONIALS.—The following clergymen have received testimonials of esteem and regard:—The Rev. J. Collinson, vicar of Swanbourne, Bucks, from his parishioners; the Rev. W. H. Dock, from the congregation of St. Silas, Liverpool; the Rev. R. D. Earterby, from the parishioners of Appleton-le-street, Yorkshire, of which place he was the curate for upwards of eleven years; the Rev. D. T. Gladstone, of St. Thomas, Leeds, from the ladies of his congregation; the Rev. C. Holland, from the inhabitants of New Boilingbroke, Lincolnshire; the Rev. J. S. Hall, late of Stanley, Yorkshire, from the parishioners; the Rev. A. W. Lonsworth, from the junior members of the congregation of St. Mary's Episcopal chapel, Broughty Ferry; the Rev. R. Mant, on his resigning the assistant curacy of Card, from the inhabitants; the Rev. T. Morrell, from the pupil teachers at Kidderminster, on his departure; the Rev. H. G. Robinson, of Holy Trinity, Preston, Lancashire, from the churchwardens and congregation, on his resigning the incumbency; the Rev. A. Reeve, late of St. John, Bridgewater, Somerset, from the inhabitants; the Rev. W. J. Rundeil, late of Wilton, Northwich, Cheshire, from the congregation; the Rev. Shepherd, of Standstead, St. Margaret's, Herts; the Rev. C. R. Tait, late of West Glandon, Surrey; the Rev. W. Wignall, of St. Saviour's, Bamber-bridge, Lancashire; the Rev. T. Wilson, of St. Ann, Torton, Lancashire, from the congregation; the Rev. J. Burrow, on his resigning the curacy of St. George's church, Ramsgate, from his parishioners and friends.

The Arnold prize, for an historical essay, has been awarded to Thomas H. Campbell, B.A., of St. John's College, Oxford.

The report of the Commission for Inquiry into the University of Oxford was presented on Tuesday, at the Home-Office, for the purpose of being forwarded to her Majesty.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

THE METROPOLITAN POLICE RATE.—On Saturday last a deputation from the metropolitan parishes, headed by Lord Dudley Stuart, M.P., and Sir Benjamin Hall, M.P., waited upon Mr. Walpole, the Home Secretary, at his official residence, with the view of inducing the right hon. gentleman to use his influence for the reduction of the police rate for the county of Middlesex, which, in his new assessment of the county magistrates raised to an enormous amount. It was stated that, in 1847, through the county magistrates re-assessing the county, the assessments were raised from £6,367,436 to £7,792,168, although, when the police were first established, it was intended by the Legislature that the then county assessment should form the basis of the police rate. In St. James's parish the police rate was suddenly raised from £6000 to £10,548, at the very time that they reduced the local expenditure from £47,000 to £22,000. Lord Dudley Stuart said that an experienced officer in the police force assured him that that force might be safely reduced 1000 men. The Chief Commissioner of Police also admitted that a reduction from sixpence to fivepence ought to be made. The Home Secretary highly approved of the uniformity of rating; and, without pledging himself to any particular course, assured the several representatives of the different parishes that the subject would engage his most serious attention, and he would do all in his power to meet the wishes.

THE ART UNION OF LONDON.—On Tuesday the annual meeting of the subscribers and members of this society was held, by permission of Mr. Charles Mathews, at the Lyceum Theatre, for the purpose of receiving the annual report, and for the distribution of the amount subscribed for the purchase of works of art for the past year. Lord Lonsborough took the chair in the absence of Lord Monteagle, the president of the institution. The report of the council, which was adopted, stated that the subscriptions of the year amounted to the sum of £12,903, showing a considerable increase on the amount collected in 1851. The reserved fund now amounts to £4740. The following is a statement of the receipts and expenditure:—Amount of subscriptions, £12,903 9s.; set apart for purchase of pictures, bronzes, statues, tazas, and prize engravings, £6449; cost of engraving of the year, £3640 19s. 4d.; printing, advertising, and other expenses, including reserve of 2½ per cent., £2913 2s. 8d.; total, £12,903 9s. The total sum appropriated to the purchase and production of works of art, including the cost of engraving, is £10,089. Mr. Godwin stated that £1500 had been devoted to the promotion of art since the formation of the society. The distribution was then proceeded with, and amongst the numerous prizes drawn were the following:—The Rev. H. Sibthorpe, entitled to a work of art of the value of £200. The Venerable Archdeacon Behrens, Shroveham; and Mr. J. Douglas Lucas, Malze-hill, Greenwich, each entitled to a work of art of value £150. Mr. A. Mitchell, Manchester; Mr. W. Swainson, Walworth; and Mr. J. Walton, Bolton, each entitled to a work of art of the value of £100. The drawing of the numbers for the forty statues and thirty tazas followed; and, after some routine business connected with the distribution had been transacted, a vote of thanks to the noble chairman concluded the proceedings of the day.

SOCIETY OF ARTS.—On Wednesday evening a meeting of this society took place at the institution, John-street, Adelphi—Earl Granville in the chair—when a paper was read by Mr. Owen Jones, in connexion with the Great Exhibition, the title being, "An Attempt to define the Principles which should regulate the employment of Colour in the Decorative Arts."

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.—On Thursday the annual meeting of this society took place at the rooms of the institution, in Hanover-square; Sir George Clark in the chair. A report was adopted, which stated that the total income for the year exceeded that of 1850 by the sum of £11,495, and that of 1849 by the sum of £17,682, the gross receipts for 1851 being £26,453. The total sum expended in 1851 was £22,380. The funded capital had been increased by £4500; and many valuable presents had been received, which fully compensated for the loss sustained by the society from casualties in the menagerie.

LONDON HOSPITAL.—On Thursday evening the 112th anniversary festival of this hospital was celebrated at the London Tavern; his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge presiding. In proposing the toast of the evening, his Royal Highness stated that he had visited the hospital the previous day, and could bear testimony to its admirable arrangements. The number of in-patients during the past year was 4051, and of out-patients 17,062; making a total of 21,113; of whom 9126 were suffering from accidents. The regular income of the hospital was only £10,500, whilst the annual expenditure exceeded £12,000, leaving a large margin to be supplied by subscriptions and donations. The subscriptions of the evening amounted to nearly £1800.

AGED PILGRIMS' FRIEND SOCIETY.—The annual meeting of the members of this society was held at the London Tavern, on Monday evening; Mr. Henry Pownall in the chair. By the report it appeared that during the past year 50 pensioners had died, and 30 had been admitted on the funds of the society, from which they received 4s. a month; 28 approved candidates had been admitted on the £4 4s. list, and had been elected to receive pensions of £10 10s. per annum. The total number of pensioners at present on their list is 340, the amount expended in the relief of whom during the last year was £1936 12s. 7d., and there remained a balance in hand on the year's account of £133 6s. 4d.

LONDON COLONIAL TRAINING INSTITUTION.—The Right Hon. the Earl of Shaftesbury presided over the annual meeting of the friends of this institution, held on Monday evening at the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street. The report, which was adopted, stated that twelve months ago the average number of applicants each week rejected amounted to 40, while during the past year the number had increased to 70. There were 74 young men under a course of industrial and religious instruction at the institution, Great Smith-street. Of the 3000 cases, 214 were admitted; 58 left after a few days, unable to go through the probation; others had been sent to the colonies. 11 had enlisted as soldiers, and only one discharged for robbery. The applicants were all criminals, convicted for various terms of imprisonment, from one month to twenty years' transportation. The total amount of receipts was £1938 10s., and the expenditure £1603, leaving a balance on the year of £335 10s., out of which was a debt due to the treasurer of £196 18s. 5d.; but from other liabilities they were still in debt £100.

FARMERS' AND MARKET-GARDENERS' COMMITTEE.—A meeting of the Committee of Market-gardeners from the various parishes within the metropolitan sewerage district was held on Monday, at the Corn Exchange Tavern, Mark-lane, to consider the rating of agricultural and market-garden land for the purpose of sewerage; Mr. M. W. Merryweather Turner, barrister, in the chair. A resolution was agreed to for the appointment of a deputation to wait upon Lord John Manners, to represent to his Lordship the unfairness of levying these rates, and to request that the Government would introduce a measure into Parliament to exempt land used for agricultural or market-garden purposes from rates to be levied under the act for such sewerage.

SHAKESPEARE SOCIETY.—At the annual meeting, on Monday last, Mr. Collier produced his copy of the folio edition of our great poet's works, printed in 1632, with the manuscript corrections and alterations made by some owner of the volume not long after its publication. These were examined by the members present; and, as they are of high value, in reference to the true text of many important passages, it has been determined to print them by themselves in an 8vo volume, which is now in preparation.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND METROPOLITAN TRAINING INSTITUTION.—The annual meeting of this institution was held on Wednesday, at Highbury College; the Earl of Shaftesbury in the chair. The report, which was adopted, stated that there were 51 students admitted into the institution since its opening, several of whom have obtained scholarships entitling them to Government exhibitions, and others have been appointed to schools. The number of students now in residence is forty-three. The receipts during the year have amounted to £2663 7s. 6d., the expenditure to £2777 3s. 10d. The amount in hand to commence the ensuing year is £307 1s. 3d.

LONDON SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND.—At the annual meeting of the promoters of this charity, held on Monday, at the Hanover-square Rooms (the Right Rev. Bishop Carr in the chair), it was stated in the report that the income of the society during the past year had exceeded that of the previous year by £300. The receipts of the year amounted to £1815; but, owing to extraordinary expenses, the balance remaining in hand was only £287.

ROYAL OPHTHALMIC HOSPITAL, MOORFIELDS.—At the annual festival of this charity, held on Wednesday, at the Albion, Aldersgate-street—the Lord Mayor in the chair—it was stated in the course of the evening that the institution (of which the Queen is the patroness) had under its treatment, since its establishment in 1805, no fewer than 230,000 persons, 9457 of that number having been treated last year. The average cost of the patients during the last year had only been 1s. 8d. per head. Subscriptions amounting to £400 were announced.

BETHLEHEM HOSPITAL.—At a special meeting of the governors of this hospital, held on Monday, it was recommended by the committee in their report that there should be appointed a resident medical officer of a very superior order, who, with the present apothecary, should have the entire management and control of the patients and servants, and, by devoting the whole of his time, should secure to the establishment a more perfect attention to the various cases coming under observation.

ASYLUM FOR IDIOTS.—On Thursday the annual meeting of this society was held at the London Tavern; J. Lavers, Esq., presiding. It appears from the report that there are now in the asylum 170 patients, making the number in family 120 persons, irrespective of 15 patients to be admitted that day. Amongst the donations during the past year were—S. M. Peto, Esq., M.P., £1000; J. W. Shepherd, Esq., £420; J. R. Durrant, Esq., £210; and a legacy of £2000 was also received under the will of the late J. Dickinson, Esq. The report was adopted, and 15 patients elected into the hospital, out of a list of 103 approved candidates.

REFUGE FOR ORPHANS, AND GIRLS FROM RAGGED SCHOOLS.—On Thursday the annual meeting of this society was held in G. Otto-place, Paddington; the Right Hon. the Earl of Waldegrave in the chair. The receipts for the year were £256 18s. 9d., and the expenditure £255 10s. 9d., leaving a balance in hand of £61 8s.

PRAYER-BOOK AND HOMILY SOCIETY.—On Thursday the annual meeting of this society was held at the Hanover-square Rooms; the Marquis Cholmondeley in the chair. The report stated that the publications of the society now embraced thirty languages. During the year 1877 ships had been visited by the society's agents; 2648 prayer-books had been sold at reduced prices, and 472 selected homilies given to the crews. Emigrant vessels had been supplied with 439 prayer-books, 12,852 books of family prayer, 2154 selected homilies, 1186 collects and catechisms, and a large number of homilies for rewards. The income of the society was £2305, and the expenditure £2407, leaving a balance in hand of £48. The report was adopted, and some formal business transacted.

FIRE IN BERMONDSEY.—Soon after midnight on Saturday morning, a fire broke out in New Weston-street, Bermondsey, which destroyed the warehouse and seriously damaged the counting-houses of Messrs. Margeson and Co., leather-dressers. Considerable injury was also done to the premises of Messrs. Munday, tanners, of Mr. Reed, skin-dresser, and to the Wesleyan chapel in the same street.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS.—The births registered in the metropolis for the week ending Saturday, April 24, were—Males, 789; females, 819; total, 1608. The deaths during the same period were—Males, 559; females, 462; total 1021. By the official report it appears that some improvement is now perceptible in the public health, as indicated by a declining rate of mortality. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1842-51 the average number of deaths was 920, which, if raised in proportion to the increase of population, becomes 1012. On reference to the table of fatal diseases, an improvement on the returns of the previous week is apparent in the numbers ascribed to diseases of the respiratory organs, they having fallen from 214 to 172. Bronchitis has declined from 102 to 71; pneumonia, from 77 to 61. The epidemic class of diseases exhibits a total number of 204 cases in the present return, whilst the average, corrected for increase of population, is 195. Small-pox was fatal last week to 29 children and 9 adults. In 6 of the 38 cases it is stated that the sufferers had been vaccinated previously. From the observations of some of the registrars, it appears that the disease is getting rife amongst the population. Deaths from measles, 16; scarlatina, 33; whooping-cough, 35; croup, 14. Six persons died of erysipelas. Diarrhoea was fatal in only one case, although, in the previous week, the number was 15. There were 3 deaths from tetanus (lock-jaw), two of which were apparently idiopathic, and the third was occasioned by an injury from a crane.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.—At the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, the mean daily reading of the barometer was 29.821 inches. The mean temperature of the week was 46 degrees, which is rather below the average of corresponding weeks in ten years. The mean daily temperature was below the average on every day of the week, except Thursday and Friday. On Monday it was only 39.7 degrees, which is nearly 7 degrees below the average; it continued rising till Friday, when it was 53.3 degrees, or more than 5 degrees above the average; on the following day it fell to 44.4 degrees. On Sunday and Monday the wind was generally in the north-east; on Tuesday it was in the south-west, on Wednesday, in the south-east; and on the last three days, in the e. a. t.

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

TAVISTOCK ELECTION.—On Wednesday the election for this borough concluded in favour of Mr. S. Carter, who had 115 votes; the numbers for the other candidates being—for Mr. Trelawny 89, and for Mr. Philimore 80. The vacancy was occasioned by the resignation of Mr. Trelawny, who, however, had subsequently consented to stand again if re-elected.

WORCESTER ELECTION.—On Wednesday, also, Mr. W. Laslett, Free-trader, was returned without opposition as the representative for this place, in the room of Mr. Francis Rufford, who has accepted the Chiltern Hundreds.

EXETER.—The Solicitor-General, Sir Fitzroy Kelly, has taken leave of his political friends at Exeter in the following address:—"Since I had the honour to address you, soliciting your support at the ensuing general election, I have been invited to come forward as a candidate to represent the eastern division of the county of Suffolk, in the place of the late Lord Rindlesham, for the remainder of the present Parliament. Should I be returned at this election, which is appointed for the 1st of May, I may also be encouraged again to present myself as a candidate there at the general election. In the meantime you have been pleased to solicit a gentleman of your own county, every way unexceptionable, to become a candidate to represent you, together with your present respected member, Sir John Duckworth, and that gentleman has responded to your call. Under these circumstances, it becomes my duty to offer my sincere and grateful thanks to those among you who were disposed to honour me with their support, and at once to take my leave of you, with the most earnest wishes for the success of your cause, and for the continued well-being and prosperity of your ancient and loyal city."

TOWER HAMLETS.—A placard has been posted extensively about the borough requesting the electors not to promise their votes, as "two candidates will come forward on the principles of protection to British industry and capital."

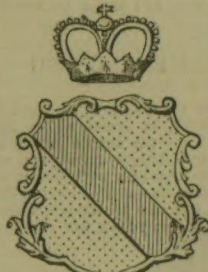
LEEDS.—An attempt is, after all, being made to re-introduce Mr. William Beckett, M.P., as a candidate for re-election for Leeds. Several meetings have, within the last few days, been held in his favour.

ATLESBURY.—Mr. J. Temple West, of Eaton-square, has announced to the electors his intention of becoming a candidate. He is attached to her Majesty's present Government.

NOTTINGHAM.On Thursday last a lengthy address was delivered by Mr. Walter, M.P., which did not appear to meet the approval of the Radical constituency, who, by a large majority, have decided against the honourable gentleman's re-election at the dissolution of Parliament.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS RECENTLY DECEASED.

THE GRAND DUKE OF BADEN.



LEOPOLD, or rather Charles Leopold Frederick, Grand Duke of Baden, and Duke of Zaehring, was the third son of the Grand Duke Charles Frederick, and was born the 29th August, 1790. He succeeded to the grand ducal throne on the demise of his brother, the Grand Duke Louis, the 30th March, 1830. He had previously married Sophia Wilhelmina, daughter of the unfortunate Gustavus IV., King of Sweden, who was dethroned in 1809, and died in exile in 1837. By his consort, who survives him, Leopold leaves issue four sons and three daughters. His eldest daughter, the Princess Alexandrina, is the consort of the reigning Duke of Saxe-Coburg Gotha, and the sister-in-law of Prince Albert. Louis, the eldest son of Leopold, succeeds him as Grand Duke of Baden; he is in his twentieth year, but is unfortunately in a state of mental incapacity. His next brother, Prince Frederick, Duke of Zaehring, born in 1826, has assumed the government of Baden, as Regent. The Grand Duke Leopold died on the 24th ultimo.

Besides being connected by marriage with the present Royal family of England, the Grand Duke of Baden is matrimonially allied to that of Bonaparte. The Grand Duchess Dowager Stephanie, the widow of the Grand Duke Charles Louis, the nephew and predecessor of the Grand Duke Leopold, whose death we here record, is the cousin of the President Louis Napoleon, through his mother, the Queen Hortense. The Princess Stephanie was adopted by the Emperor Napoleon as his daughter. The Princess Mary, the third daughter of the Grand Duchess Dowager Stephanie, is the present Marchioness of D'Anglas.

SIR ALEXANDER RAMSAY, BART., OF BALMAIN.



This respected Baronet died on the 26th ult., at 21 Baker-street, London. He was the eldest son of the late Alexander Burnett (second son of Sir Thomas Burnett, Bart., of Leys), who succeeded to the estates of his maternal uncle, Sir Alexander Ramsay, Bart., of Balmain, assumed the surname of Ramsay, and was created a Baronet of the United Kingdom in 1806. The Ramsays of Balmain are a family of great antiquity in the county of Kincardine, being lineally descended from Sir John Ramsay, Knight, of Balmain and Tasque, who was created by King James III. a Lord of Parliament in 1433, under the title of Bothwell, but who subsequently, adhering to his unfortunate Sovereign against the Scottish nobles, suffered outlawry and confiscation.

Sir Alexander Ramsay, whose death we record, was born 14th February, 1785. He married, 1st August, 1811, Jane, eldest daughter and coheir of J. Russell, Esq., of Blackhall, and by her, who died in 1819, he had three sons and two daughters. He married, secondly, 26th December, 1822, Elizabeth, second daughter of William late Lord Panmure, by whom he leaves several children. The eldest son of the first marriage is the present Sir Alexander Ramsay, third Baronet, born in 1811, who is married to Ellen Matilda, eldest daughter of John Entwistle, Esq., M.P., of Foxholes, and has issue.

The will of the late King of Hanover, written in German, and translated into English, has been deposited in the archives of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, and letters of administration granted to Charles Kingemann, Esq., the lawful attorney of his present Majesty George King of Hanover; heretofore the Crown Prince of Hanover, the son and executor. The will was made on the 31st of October, 1851, and is in substance as follows, commencing—"Ernest August, King of Hanover, Prince of Great Britain and Ireland, Duke of Cumberland, and Duke of Brunswick and Luneburg," &c., appointing his son the Crown Prince and the future successor to the Crown, and his immediate descendant, the then reigning Monarch of Hanover, to be the trustees of the personal and private property, but to cease should the crown descend to another branch, say that of his nephew, the Duke of Cambridge, and such trusteeship and personal inheritance to go to his own right heirs; but from the foregoing trust is excluded all moneys in the Crown treasury, the superior courts, and in the administration of the theatre. There are no specific bequests nor any legacies mentioned in the will, the whole of the property remaining in the hands of the trustees as a "family trusteeship." The will is signed "Ernest August." In the will it is mentioned that his late Majesty's life was insured in the Equitable Life Office in the sum of £3000, which, with the bonus of his advanced age, must be considerable. The whole of the personal estate sworn to in this country, under the probate, was £20,000.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

Her Majesty and his Royal Highness Prince Albert have authorised their names to be put at the head of a subscription list for the relief of those whose relatives were drowned at the wreck of the *Birkenhead* steam troop-ship. The members of the Cabinet have also subscribed. The committee of the relief fund has nominated Miss F. S. Salmon, eldest child of the unfortunate commander of the *Birkenhead*, as a candidate for admission into the Royal Naval Female School at the ensuing election of pupils. Up to the present time nearly £1000 has been subscribed to the Borough and United Service funds in Portsmouth.

A parliamentary return just printed shows that, in the session of 1849, 42 motions for the adjournment of the House, or of the debate, or to report progress, were put from the chair; in the session of 1850, 86; and in 1851, 74. The total number of questions put from the chair during the progress of the Ecclesiastical Titles Bill, last session, amounted to 118. Of these, 43 were put by the Speaker, and 75 by the chairmen of committees.

At the recent anniversary of the Society of Antiquaries, the noble President, Viscount Mahon, announced that Mr. Forbes Stephenson, a fellow of the society, recently deceased, had bequeathed the sum of £16,000 to that corporation for the promotion of historical research and antiquarian investigation.

The town of Whydah, on the west coast of Africa, has been recently burnt, together with Mr. Huton's factory, by which he loses considerable property. After the fire, there were discovered in the ruins of the town the charred remains of 150 slaves, who had been unable to escape, owing to their being chained together by the neck. It is supposed they were collected together ready for shipping. The town of Dahomey, where the King of that country resides, is also reported to have been burnt.

At a meeting of the vestry of Marylebone, on Saturday, resolutions were agreed to in favour of a clause proposed to be introduced into the bill for the continuation of the Poor Law Amendment, exempting parishes having the management of their own poor by boards of guardians, elected under a local act, from the operation of such bill.

The official paper of Rio, Brazil, received by the last packet, contains a decree reducing the oppressive anchorage dues on British and all other foreign vessels from 900 rs. per ton to 3000 rs., or, in English money, from 2s. a ton to 8d. This is a very valuable concession, and will be felt to be a great relief by all shipowners engaged in the trade with Brazil.

Messrs. James Dingwall and John Picton Beets are appointed members of the Legislative Council of Prince Edward's Island. Mr. William N. Stevens is appointed a member of the Legislative Council of New Brunswick. Mr. William Davies is appointed a member of the Council of Dominica, during the temporary absence of Dr. Imray.

A dinner took place at the Plough Hotel, Cheltenham, on Friday week, on the occasion of the presentation to Earl Fitzhardinge, by members of the Berkeley Hunt and other sportsmen of a splendid piece of plate subscribed for in testimony of the subscribers' appreciation of the noble Lord's generosity in maintaining a pack of fox-hounds and noble stud for hunting the Berkeley and Cheltenham country.

The *Brighton Gazette* states that the oyster fishery off the coast of Havre is still carried on very extensively. No less than thirty-five sail of smacks, trading from Shoreham, arrived in the harbour at Brighton on one day in the previous week, laden with oysters.

On Sunday morning, about three o'clock, the new ship *Falcon*, said to be the finest sailing vessel that ever left the port of Liverpool, left the Mersey bound for Port Phillip, with between 300 and 400 emigrants on board. As the *Falcon* stood out to sea, she fired two guns as a parting salute.

The Right Hon. Sir Stratford Canning, Ambassador at Constantinople, is to be raised to the peerage by the title of Viscount Stratford de Redcliffe, of Redcliffe, in the county of Somerset.

The Earl of Cadow has been appointed Lord-Lieutenant of Carmarthenshire, in the room of Lord Dynevor, deceased.

Mr. Feargus O'Connor, M.P., sailed last Saturday from Liverpool in the Royal Mail Steam-ship *Europa* for New York. The object of Mr. Feargus O'Connor's departure for America is, it is said, to avoid the commission of lunacy that has been issued against him.

According to the financial statement of the Metropolitan Sewers Commissioners, the balance in hand on the 17th of April was £6334 16s. 9d., which, after payments made to the amount of £4164 3s., leaves as the available balance the sum of £2170 13s. 9d.

By a letter dated January 18th, received last week from an Assistant-Surgeon of the British Navy, stationed at Hobart Town, to a relative in Ireland, it appears that Mr. Thomas F. Meagher, one of the recent political exiles in Van Diemen's Land, had effected his escape immediately after he had written a letter to the police magistrate of the district, informing him that he did not wish his ticket of leave extended.

A memorial to the Lord-Lieutenant, praying for a remission of the sentence upon Mr. Smith O'Brien and his companions in exile, was on Saturday last put in circulation in Dublin, and in the course of a few hours received a number of influential signatures.

His Royal Highness the Prince Consort has headed a new list of subscriptions in aid of the funds of the Portsmouth Sailors' Home, with a donation of £50.

On Sunday morning the Lord Bishop of London delivered a sermon at St. Mark's Church, North Audley-street, in aid of the Royal Orthopaedic Hospital in Bloomsbury-square. The collection amounted to £27 4s. 4d.

As William Garner, of Broad Heath, a wholesale milk-dealer, was crossing the line of the Manchester and Atteringham Railway, at the Temperley station, on Saturday afternoon, he was thrown down by one of the buffers of an engine that suddenly came up, and, passing over him, severed both his legs from his body. He died at the station an hour after the accident. He has left a widow and three children.

On Tuesday, a gentleman unknown, apparently about fifty-five years of age, died suddenly at the railway station, Richmond, Surrey. On his person was found a letter relating to the ship *Thames*, addressed from Richmond-street, signed "Samuel Shipton."

On Tuesday the first stone of a building at Brixton, intended for the education and maintenance of the orphan children of freemen of the City of London, was laid by the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, attended by the Sheriffs, Messrs. Cotterell and Swift, Admerman Musgrove, Ghalis, and Salmons, and the members of the committee.

The *New York Herald* states that Lola Montes has engaged a son of Mrs. Ware, a celebrated poetess, to write a sort of epic drama for her, embodying the principal events of her wayward life, and introducing into the play the eminent characters with whom she was brought in contact.

A letter from Vienna, dated April 21, states that all Kossuth's relatives have been set at liberty by the Austrian Government, and that they were to leave the country on the 1st of May.

Sir John Eardley Earlely Wilmot, Bart., of the Midland Circuit and Lincoln's Inn, has been appointed Recorder of the borough of Warwick, vice Mr. Mellor, resigned.

By the American papers we learn that Mrs. Bloomer was killed in Bridge-street, Boston, by her husband.

A ship, of about 1400 tons, supposed to be of American build, laden with mahogany and cocoa-nuts, was fallen in with, in February, in the latitude of Lisbon, between 11° and 12° W. lon., waterlogged, and with rigging and sails cut away, but with masts and yards standing, by the *Baldur Fieberg*, arrived at Bristol.

The reply of the sub-committee on the subject of the Crystal Palace, to the report of the Treasury Commission, was on Monday issued, and urges various reasons why the report of the commissioners appointed to inquire into the cost and applicability of the Crystal Palace ought not to be acted on.

The terrace on the river front of the new Palace at Westminster is being covered with a variegated pavement, and the windows in the basement story are to be ornamented, and protected with zinc railings and gratings. The public will shortly be admitted to this interesting and pleasant promenade, and have from it an excellent view of the southern front of the new palace, and a capital view of the river from Westminster-bridge to Vauxhall-bridge.

Dr. Vanel, a young physician of Livron (France), died on the 8th of April of hydrophobia, caused by a bite in his thumb from a young dog about a month previously. He left behind him a young widow about to give birth to a child, and a mother and sister.

On Saturday morning the brig *Charles*, of London, Captain James, from Antwerp, for Quebec, was lost, with a general cargo and forty-six German emigrants, who were landed at Whitstable safely by the *Expedient*, of this place, Captain George Hall. The vessel struck on the Pan Sand at about two o'clock in the morning, and almost immediately filled with water. The passengers endured the most agonising suspense for the succeeding five hours, before they were rescued by the above-named vessel.

In the latter part of last week ten lives were sacrificed, and six colliers seriously injured, by an explosion of fire-damp in a colliery at Fember-ton, near Wigan.

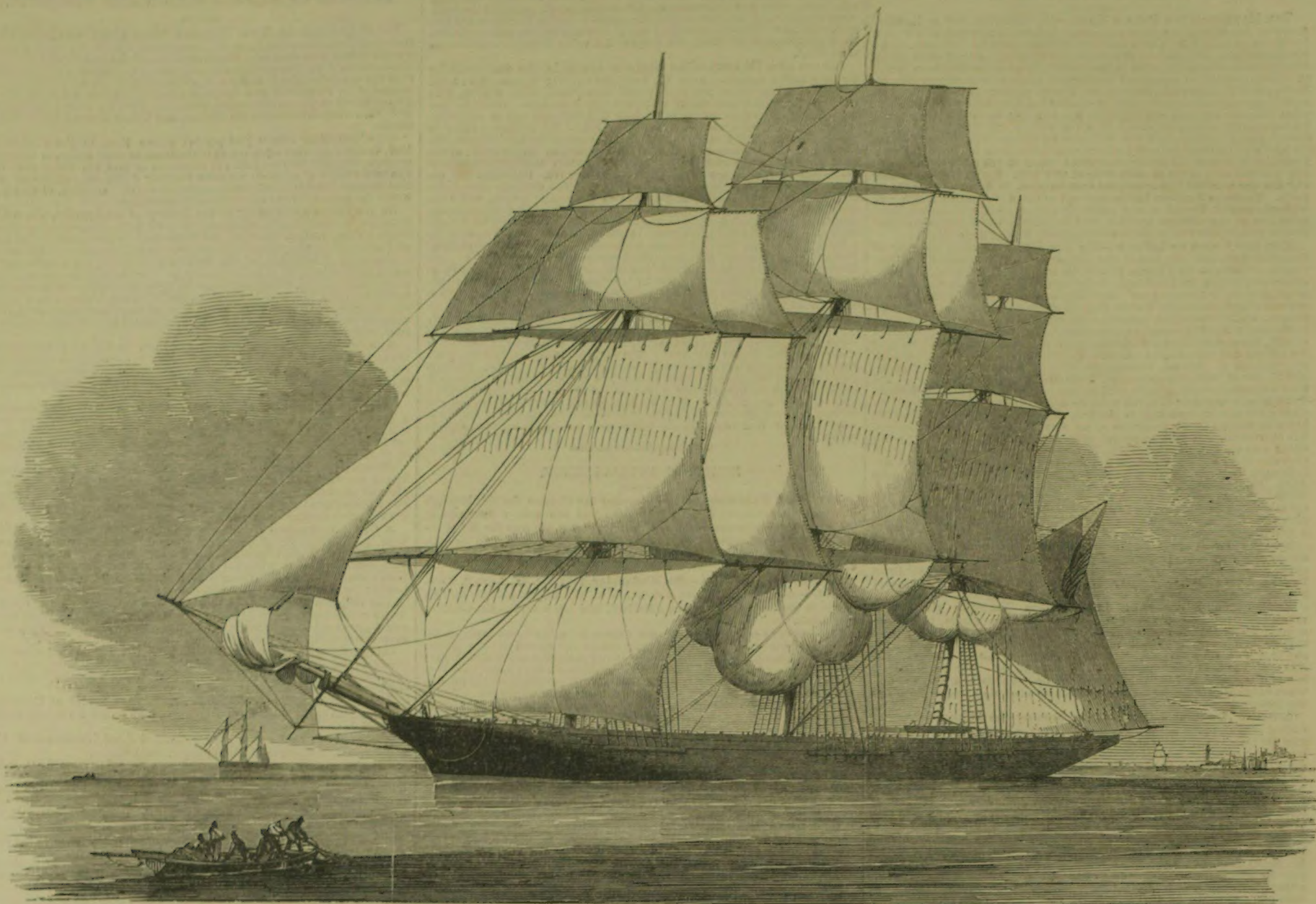
Hursley House, the residence of Sir William Heathcote, Bart., has been damaged to the extent of £500 or £600, by a fire which broke out on Saturday morning last. The building was formerly the residence of Richard, son of Oliver Cromwell.

The Government require to be voted for law and justice for the current year, as stated in a Parliamentary document printed on Monday, the sum of £1,294,374, against £1,097,611 in the preceding year.

From a Parliamentary paper just published it appears that for the year 1852-53 £470,762 is required for education, science, and art. In 1851 the sum was £435,920; and in 1850, £414,802.

Rio de Janeiro is to be lighted with Mr. Stephen White's patent hydro-carbon gas, to be made from water and boghead canal, now so successfully adopted in many towns in the United Kingdom.

Sir Alexander Spearman and Mr. Wentworth Dilke have been elected members of the Commission for the Exhibition, in recognition, it is understood, of their zealous and gratuitous services—the first as a member of the finance committee, and the other of the executive committee. Captain Shepherd, who had been a commissioner *ex officio* during the whole work of the Exhibition, but who had retired upon commission to be chairman of the East India Company, has also been elected a commissioner.



THE AMERICAN CLIPPER SHIP, "WITCH OF THE WAVE."

THE AMERICAN CLIPPER SHIP, "WITCH OF THE WAVE."

This large and beautiful clipper-built ship, commanded by Captain Millett, recently arrived in the East India Docks, Blackwall, from Canton, having made one of the most extraordinary and rapid voyages on record; she also brought one of the most valuable cargoes of tea that perhaps ever entered the port of London, having on board no fewer than 19,000 chests of the choicest quality.

This vessel is of 1400 tons burthen, and was built at Salem, near New York, in the course of last year. She first proceeded to California, thence to Hong-Kong, and sailed from Whampoa, near Canton, on the 25th of January; made the passage to Java Head in seven days twelve hours; then had the wind W.S.W. to N.W. for several days, with a light trade wind, and made the Cape in twenty-nine days; then encountered strong easterly winds from the Western Isles, and took a pilot off Dungeness on the 4th of April, making the passage from China to the Downs in ninety days—a trip surpassing the celebrated runs of the *Oriental* and *Surprise* clippers.

Had she not encountered the strong easterly winds up Channel, she would have made the voyage several days earlier; as it was, she was

only four days beating up from the chops of the Channel, while some of our large vessels were nearly a fortnight doing the distance.

The *Witch of the Wave* left the river on Thursday, the 22d ult., and while in the docks was an object of great interest, her bows and general appearance being similar to the *America* yacht, which carried off the plate at Cowes last year.

By the above it will be seen that she sailed round the world in ten months and a half, including loading and discharging at the above ports. The greatest distance she ran on the voyage was 338 miles in twenty-four hours.

DEPARTURE OF THE ARCTIC SEARCHING EXPEDITION.

We this week complete our Portrait Illustrations of the officers of the third Government Expedition, which has just left our shores, in search of Sir John Franklin and his companions; and, bearing in mind the determination and energy of the commander and the officers of this new Expedition, we are warranted in anticipating happy results. First, is Lieutenant Sherard Osborn, who commanded the same vessel, the *Pioneer*, during the late search. Next is Commander McClintock, who was with Sir J. C. Ross, and also in Captain Austin's late Expedition, in which he made the wonderful journey from the wintering-

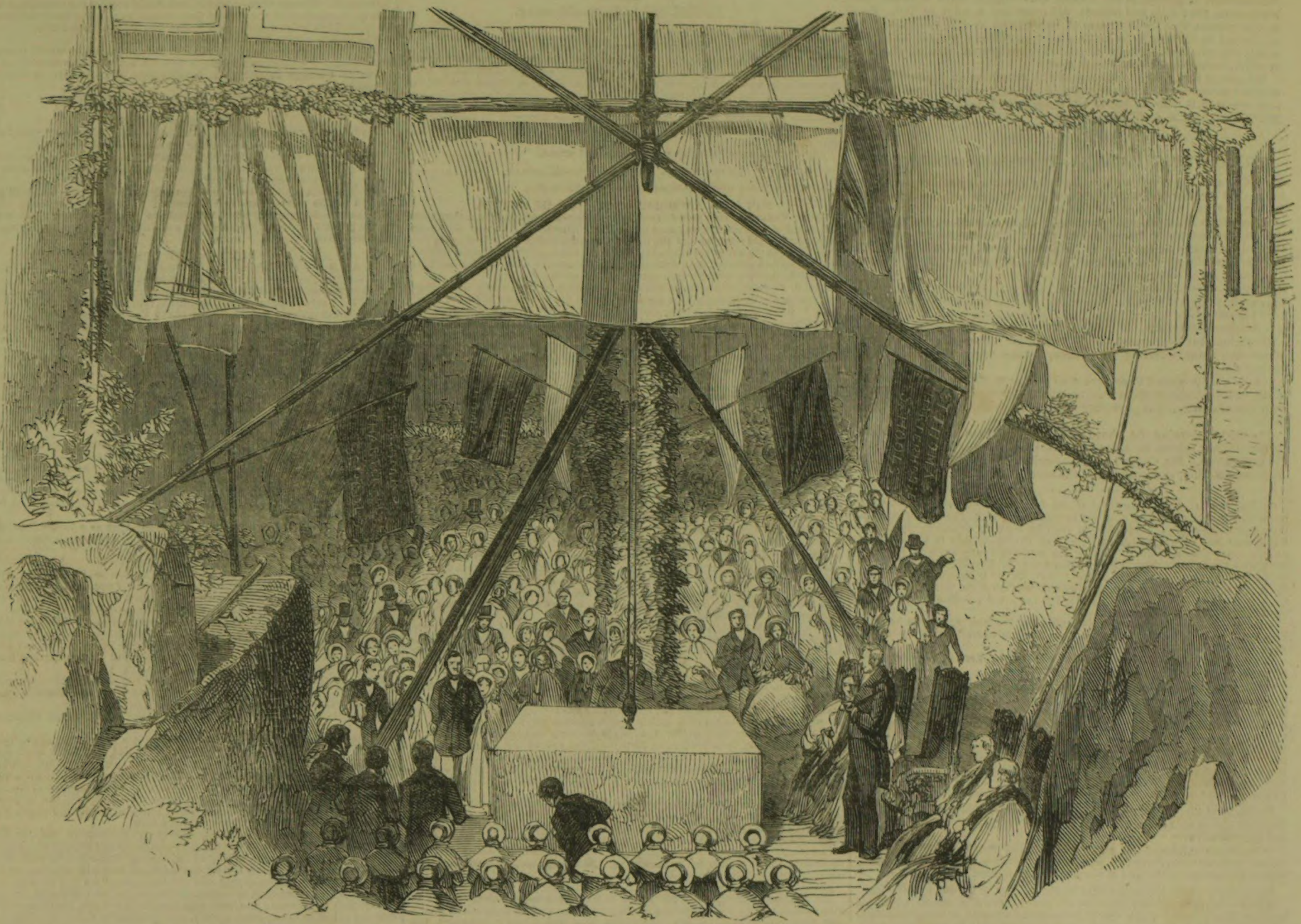
place of the squadron to Melville Island and back. Third on the line is Commander G. H. Richards, who, since 1849, was second captain of the *Acheron* steam surveying vessel, on the East India station. The details of the departure are as follows:—

Her Majesty's ships *Assistance*, 2, Captain Sir E. Belcher, C.B.; *Resolute*, 2, Captain H. Kellett, C.B.; *North Star*, 2, Commander William J. S. Pullen; *Intrepid*, 2, screw steam-ship, tender to the *Resolute*; and *Pioneer*, 2, screw steam-vessel, tender to the *Assistance*, arrived at the Great Nore, from Greenhithe, at 7.30 A.M. on Wednesday week, the first three in tow of the *Lightning*, *Monkey* and *African* steamers respectively. At 9 A.M. her Majesty's steam-vessel *Myrtle*, Mr. W. S. Bouchier master commanding, conveyed Captain C. Hope, Superintendent of the Dockyard, and senior port naval officer (*pro tem*), on a visit to Sir E. Belcher, returning at noon with the captains of the several ships, who were entertained at luncheon by Captain C. Hope. A dockyard cutter was kindly placed at the disposal of the officers belonging to the ships in port, for the purpose of affording them an opportunity of visiting the Arctic exploring squadron, of which many availed themselves. At one P.M. the *Myrtle*, with the broad pendant of Captain C. Hope flying, returned to the Nore with the officers, who came into port. Between one and two P.M., signal was made to the *Basilik*, *Desperate*, and the other steamers to get up their steam; and at three o'clock the squadron weighed anchor and started on their voyage, the sailing-vessels being each in tow of a tug-vessel, and carrying with them the hearty wishes of every one for success in the enterprise in which they are engaged.



NEWSPAPER
LONDON
ILLUSTRATED

LIEUTENANT OSBORN, COMMANDER OF THE "PIONEER." MR. ALLARD, MASTER OF THE "PIONEER." COMMANDER MCCLINTOCK ("INTREPID.") MR. PULLEN, MASTER OF "THE NORTH STAR." COMMANDER RICHARDS ("ASSISTANCE").
THE ARCTIC SEARCHING SQUADRON.—(FROM PHOTOGRAPHS BY BEARD.)



THE FOUNDATION-STONE OF THE ST. THOMAS' CHARTERHOUSE SCHOOLS, LAID BY THE MARQUESS OF LANSDOWNE, ON WEDNESDAY.

LAYING OF THE FOUNDATION-STONE OF THE ST. THOMAS'S (CHARTERHOUSE) NEW SCHOOLS.

ON Wednesday, at twelve o'clock, the ceremony of laying the foundation-stone of the new building for the Schools of St. Thomas, Charterhouse, took place on a piece of ground on the eastern side of Goswell-street, immediately facing St. Thomas's Church, in the presence of the Most Noble the Marquess of Lansdowne, the Lord Bishop of Lichfield, the Bishop of St. Asaph, the Venerable Archdeacon Hale, the Rev. Mr. Rogers, the Treasurer of the Schools, and Incumbent of St. Thomas's, and a very numerous attendance of the clergy and gentlemen interested in the advancement of the means of education. The ground was tastefully decorated with evergreens, the subscribers being accommodated with raised seats.

On the arrival of the Marquess of Lansdowne, the procession was formed in St. Thomas's Church, from which it advanced to the site of the Schools in the following order:—Children of the Schools, and their pupil teachers; the committee; the Rev. Mr. Rogers, the Bishop of Lichfield and St. Asaph, the Marquess of Lansdowne, the clergy, &c.

The noble Marquess having taken up his position in front of the stone, and the usual preliminaries having been made by Mr. Nixon, the builder, under the direction of Mr. Escott, the architect, the Rev. Mr. Rogers addressed his Lordship, and related the origin of the Schools, and the encouragement and assistance he had received from the Marquess himself. It had always been his opinion that a clergyman

might do a great deal of good by decent and common attention to schools, and in that conviction he had acted. The locality needed the appliances of instruction; and, on his induction to the living, he was desirous of furnishing them. He commenced operations in a blacksmith's shed, which was filled with boys nearly as soon as opened. He then engaged a workshop, which was immediately filled with girls. He had met with great assistance in his endeavours from the Marquis of Lansdowne. He might mention, as a proof of the need of education in that populous and humble district, that a petition having been signed in favour of the schools by the inhabitants, a thousand or more in number, two-thirds of the signatures were crosses. The rev. gentleman, in an eloquent address, descending on the private and public virtues of the noble Marquess, concluded by requesting his Lordship to lay the stone.

The Marquess of Lansdowne said it afforded him the greatest satisfaction to be present on any occasion which could tend to assist the means of education. The late Government had done much for education, and he hoped all future Governments would pursue the same course. After some further observations, the architect handed his Lordship the trowel. The stone was lowered, his Lordship standing at the eastern side spreading the mortar, and the stone was laid. The children then sang the 100th Psalm, the Bishop of Lichfield reading the usual prayers.

The Bishop of St. Asaph then addressed the assemblage in lieu of the Bishop of Lichfield.

Mr. Hobhouse having addressed the Marquis on the part of the committee, expressive of their sense of the honour he had done a district

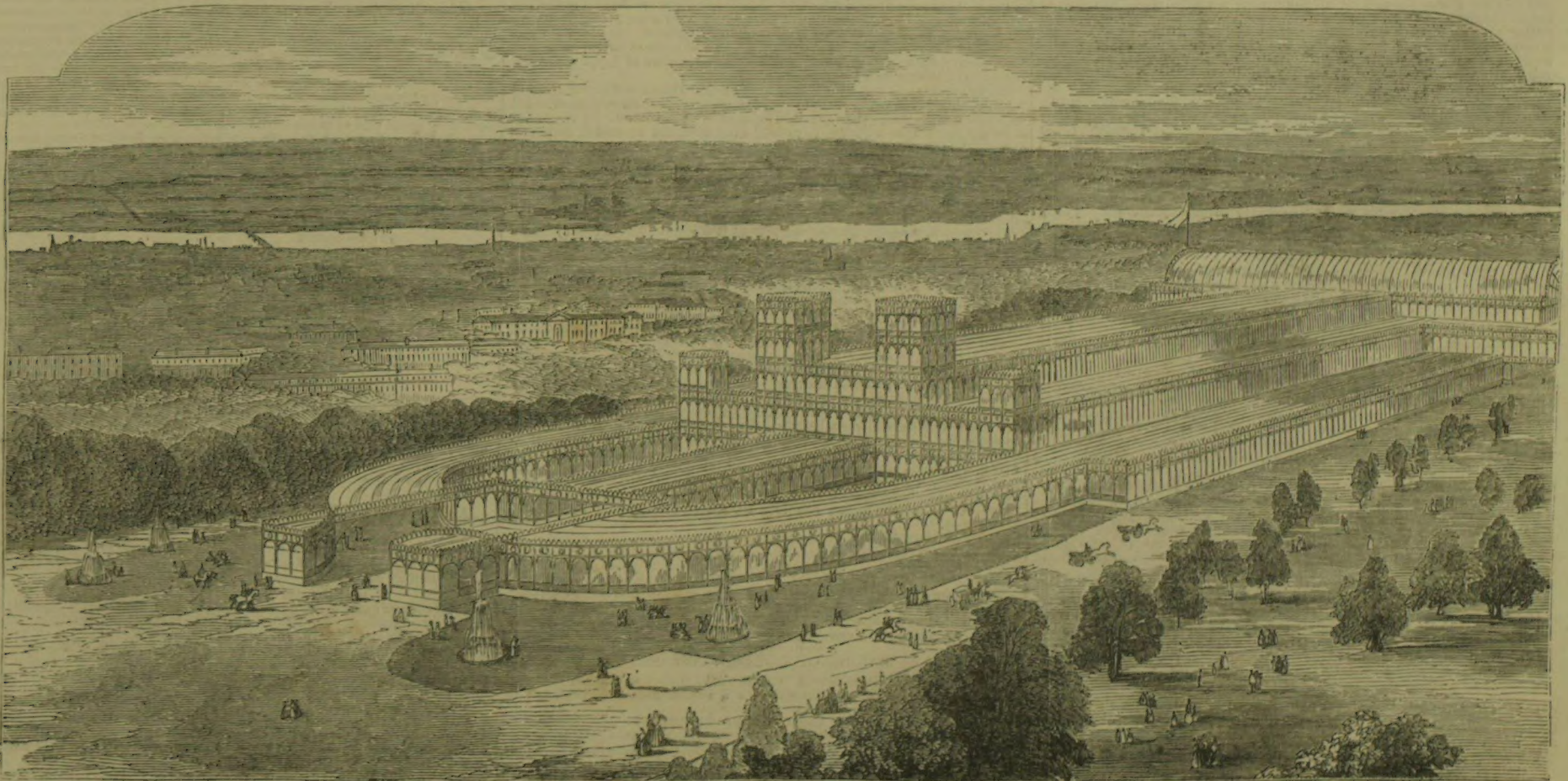
with which he was in no way connected, his Lordship briefly expressed his acknowledgments.

The Rev. Mr. Rogers presented the noble Marquess with the silver trowel, which had been subscribed for by the teachers and scholars, who desired its acceptance, which his Lordship received with much emotion.

After the anthem of "God save the Queen," the procession returned to the church, the children being regaled with wine and cake in the Schools. The proceedings then terminated.

In the district where these Schools are located they must prove of great utility. The district forms part of the parish of St. Luke, and contains a population of 9000 inhabitants, chiefly, if not entirely, composed of the poorest and most ignorant class, many of them employed in the City as porters and artisans, and more getting their livelihood in the streets. The district, indeed, includes Golden-lane, Whitecross-street, and their several adjoining courts. It is manifest that such persons cannot contribute towards the designed building, and therefore the assistance of the more wealthy is desirable.

Mr. Rogers commenced the operations of which he spoke in 1845; in 1846 he obtained a piece of ground adjoining the church for the purpose of building schools. Two rooms were built capable of accommodating 550 children, costing £1750. When first opened he found great difficulty in getting the parents to pay even 2d. per week; but gradually they began to appreciate the proposed benefit, and it was possible to raise the school fees to 3d., 4d., and 6d. One reason for this advance was the introduction of superior masters and



THE CRYSTAL PALACE IN HYDE-PARK.—PROPOSED NEW ENTRANCES, AND ADDITIONS.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

the pupil-teacher system. The number of scholars, also, has increased. The numbers at present in the School are:—Upper Boys' Schools, 250; lower ditto, 190; girls and infants, 350; making a total of 790. Such was its success, that the Marquess of Lansdowne moved the Committee of Council on Education to make an extraordinary grant of £800 towards the proposed new buildings. The estimated cost of the new erection, including freehold site, is £4000.

We should add, that at the close of the ceremony on Wednesday, the children were regaled with a small cask of wine, sent by some benevolent person in Berkshire, free of all charge; and with 1500 buns from Mr. Tolfree, of No. 4, Wilderness-row.

THE CRYSTAL PALACE.—PROPOSED ADDITIONS.

By aid of a model which we have had the opportunity of inspecting, we learn that Sir Joseph Paxton proposes certain alterations in the Crystal Palace, for the purpose of converting it into a Winter Garden, and adapting it to other scientific purposes. These alterations are shown in the illustration upon the preceding page. They consist in extending the ends in a circular form, so as to present two large court-yards for the various objects that so large a scientific building would require. The eastern and western entrances would diverge in three directions; namely, one grand entrance leading to the centre of the building, whilst the others, taking a circular form, would lead to the two 48-foot avenues next the outside of the building, thus leaving a large court-yard on each side the grand entrance.

To each end it is proposed to add four glass towers, for the purposes of ventilation and covering the chimneys, coke being used for heating the building.

It is further proposed to construct entrances at Prince's Gate, to be of glass, and lead direct from the Knightsbridge-road to the end of the Transsept Galleries, thus providing two covered pathways over the Park drive.

The model, showing the above additions, has been ably constructed by Mr. Robert Cogan, 48, Leicester-square. It has been placed in the Crystal Palace. Mr. Cogan is also preparing smaller models of the Exhibition Building, as memorials of the structure.

On Tuesday a crowded meeting of the friends of the movement for the preservation of the Crystal Palace was held in Exeter Hall, the Earl of Shaftesbury in the chair. In one of the side galleries were her Grace the Duchess of Sutherland and the Marquis of Stafford, and the whole body of the vast hall and the gallery were crowded. Among the gentlemen who were on the platform were the Duke of Argyll, Earl of Harrowby, Sir Joseph Paxton, Mr. Arlony, M.P.; Mr. Hume, M.P.; Right Hon. C. T. D'Eyncourt, M.P.; W. Williams, Esq., M.P.; the Rev. Dr. Cumming, Admiral Sir George Sartorius, Colonel Sykes, H. Munday, Esq.; T. Wexley, Esq., M.P.; — Geach, Esq., M.P.; — Heywood, Esq., M.P.

The noble chairman, on opening the business of the meeting, read a letter he had just received, signed "A working man of Dorsetshire," enclosing £20 in support of the movement.

The following resolution, which was proposed by the Earl of Harrowby, and seconded by Mr. Hume, was carried unanimously:—

"That the frequent contemplation of works in the fine arts, of historical and literary monuments, and objects of natural history, is eminently conducive to the instruction, refinement, and rational amusement of the people; and this meeting views with satisfaction the increased facilities lately given to the public to view the collections contained in the British Museum and the National Gallery, whilst the decorous conduct of the people visiting those collections proves that they fully appreciate every opportunity of rational recreation; and this meeting, taking into consideration the successful progress of the Great Exhibition of 1851, is of opinion that the Crystal Palace should be preserved on its present site for the instruction and recreation of the people."

The Duke of Argyll said he was not ashamed to confess that his conviction had been arrived at through the ordeal of doubts. (Cheers.) The resolution he had to propose was—

"That in the opinion of this meeting the Crystal Palace can be maintained on the self-supporting principle under a joint trust calculated to afford the highest guarantee for the uses to which it may be applied."

The resolution having been seconded by Mr. Wakley, M.P., was also carried. Measures having been then taken for the appointment of a deputation to wait upon the Earl of Derby with a view of inducing Government to assent to a committee of inquiry, and for the preparation of a memorial to be presented to the Queen for the preservation of the Building, Sir Joseph Paxton entered into a statement of personal matters and details connected with the origin and progress of the Crystal Palace, and read a letter from the Earl of Carlisle, the concluding paragraph of which ran thus:—

"You have my best wishes, and I make no scruple of saying at all times that I consider the destruction of the Crystal Palace would be as perverse and senseless an act of vandalism as could be perpetrated; and, let me add, when the enjoyment it would be capable of affording to such large masses of the people is considered, a very unwise and ungracious one on the part of the Government and the aristocracy to insist upon."

The following noblemen and gentlemen have consented to act as trustees if the proposal can be carried out: viz. the Duke of Devonshire, Duke of Argyll, Earl of Shaftesbury, Earl of Harrowby, Earl of Burlington, Earl of Carlisle, Lord de Maitry, Viscount Palmerston, M.P., Lord Londesborough, Baron Lionel Rothschild, M.P., Sir Peto, &c.

After a vote of thanks to the chairman, the meeting separated. Meetings were held in Southwark and other parts of the metropolis during the week in support of the same object.

Among the subscriptions received from England within the last few days (and chiefly collected by the exertions of C. P. Roney, Esq.) in support of the projected Industrial Exhibition at Cork are—Messrs. Mandslay, Sons, and Field, engine-manufacturers, London, £10; Mr. John Ashbury, railway carriage manufacturer, Manchester, £5; Messrs. J. Marshall and Sons, railway carriage builders, Birmingham, £5; Mr. W. H. Smith, 136, Strand, London, £3 3; Messrs. Warden and Sons, railway spike, screw, and bolt manufacturers, Birmingham, £1 1; Mrs. Hibbert, Royal Hotel, Holyhead, £1 1s.

PATENT CASK MANUFACTURING MACHINE.—The patents of Mr. Roeburg, which attracted attention some time since, from the completeness and rapidity with which casks of all descriptions could be made, are now in active operation in the Wenlock-road, City Canal Basin. So thoroughly simple is the whole affair, that a person with but the slightest knowledge of mechanics might at once inform himself of the principles. Indeed there exists nothing of complexity in the matter. From the beginning of the one minute which it occupies to render a roughly shaped stave geometrically exact, to the end of the three minutes taken in compressing and adjusting the staves together, with bottom, top, and hoops complete—by which a cask is formed—the eye readily follows, and the mind as quickly comprehends, the exquisite order and arrangement of the beautiful but subversive power before it. By the ordinary method a cooper cannot properly form more than 200 staves in a day, while one of these machines, with but two boys, finishes 3500 in the same time. Every one of which is infallibly correct, and, whether wide or narrow, bears the same elliptical curve. The casks thus rapidly made are free from any chance of leakage, nor do they require "flags" or any other extraneous substance, to be inserted between the junctures to ensure this important desideratum. Extra machinery is in the course of formation, considerably to extend the working of these important patents, under the immediate direction of a wealthy association.

THE ENGINEERS' STRIKE.—The struggle between the amalgamated workmen and their employers has virtually terminated in the unconditional submission of the workmen to the terms required from them; and such of the men as the employers can and will accept are hastening to offer their services, and to sign the declaration which they so loudly denounced.

IRREGULARITIES IN THE MONEY-ORDER OFFICE.—It has frequently happened that persons who are engaged to proceed to foreign parts have been compelled to remain for a day or two after getting their money order, owing to the local postmaster having neglected to forward the counterpart or instruction to honour his draft; and a very distressing instance of the same kind occurred lately, where an order from Plymouth was presented at the Liverpool post-office, and the poor woman who presented it was coolly told to call again the day after the morrow, as no order had come to pay it. The consequence, to the person in this case will be absolutely ruinous, herself and several children having thus lost their passage money.

THE HARBOURS OF REFUGE.—On Wednesday a parliamentary document was printed showing the state of the harbours of refuge and the estimated expense for the same. At Dover the estimated expense is £245,000; at Harwich, £110,000; at Alderney, £620,000; at Jersey, £100,000; and Portland Harbour and Breakwater, £585,359. The engineers' reports state the progress of the works and the annual sums required for the several harbours. For Portland Harbour, in the present year, £54,800 is required to be voted.

A letter from Kalisch, in the *Constitutionnel* of Bohemia, says: "Great activity now prevails in the streets of Warsaw, as, on account of the expected arrival of the Czar, the chief director of police has ordered all owners of property to have their houses newly whitewashed and the shopkeepers their signboards, doors, and windows painted afresh. The troops have already formed a large camp in the Powonskischen field."

Messrs. Shuttleworth and Co., of Fenchurch-street, have again taken a contract to supply 50,000 lb. of tea for the use of the navy.

Among the sums to be voted by the House of Commons under the head of civil services is £40,200 in the present year on account of the census of the population. Last year £130,000 was voted.

It is the intention of Government to propose that a sum of £4000 be voted in the present year on account of the Menai Straits navigation.

The Duchess of Nassau, on the 23d ult., gave birth to an hereditary Prince.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

Their Lordships sat for a short time.

BOROUGH OF ST. ALBAN'S.

The Earl of VERulam begged to inform their Lordships that he had communicated to the Mayor of St. Alban's the permission of their Lordships to allow counsel to be heard at the bar of their Lordships' House in reference to the bill introduced for the disfranchisement of their borough. He had received a communication from the Mayor, thanking their Lordships for the kind privilege thus accorded them, and stating that it was not their intention to trouble their Lordships, or to take up the time of their House by any further proceeding (He r, hear.)

The bill then passed through committee—Adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

Several petitions were presented against the Militia Bill.

THE LATE ARCHBISHOP MURRAY, OF DUBLIN.

Sir W. VERNER having seen a statement in the public prints, that a clergyman had stated at a public meeting that the late Dr. Murray had at one time been solicited by the Government of the day to accept the distinguished office of Privy Councillor, as the reward of his unblemished life and high reputation for wisdom, but that he had declined the proffered honour, begged to ask the noble Lord the member for London whether that statement was correct?

Lord J. RUSSELL, in stating that the facts referred to by the hon. and gallant member were correct materially, certainly should not have used the word "solicited." But it was the fact that, during the viceroyalty of Lord Besborough, it was proposed that Archbishop Murray should take a seat at the Privy Council, and that he had declined to accept that distinction. He could only say that it gave him the greatest satisfaction to make that proposal to him, and he very much regretted that it was not accepted by a prelate whose character he esteemed and whose memory he revered. (Hear, hear.)

LEGAL EDUCATION.

The ATTORNEY GENERAL, in reply to Mr. Ewart, intimated that the benchers of the four Inns had agreed to a plan for legal education, by the establishment of professorships and readerships, to be liberally endowed, the institution of private lectures in the different departments of the law, and the requirement of a certificate of attendance at such lectures or a public examination previous to admission to the bar.

THE LOSS OF THE "BIRKENHEAD."

Major BERNARD, in reply to a question by Mr. H. Drummond, bore a willing tribute to the courage and extraordinary proof of discipline displayed by the unfortunate soldiers who perished in the wreck of the *Birkenhead*, and promised that the claims of the survivors for compensation should be met in the most liberal spirit by the War-office.

MILITIA BILL.—ADJOURNED DEBATE.

The adjourned debate (from Friday) on this bill was resumed by Mr. MERRITT, who contended that the opinions of the people throughout the country were against the bill, which they deemed to be unnecessary. If France had a greater military force than this country, we had on the other hand a vastly superior maritime force, which, in his opinion, rendered all apprehension of a successful invasion absurd.

Lord SALISBURY, amid the repeated cheers of the ministerial members, supported the second reading, on the ground that to refuse that stage would be to prevent the passing of any militia bill. He combated Lord John Russell's objections, but intimated that in committee he would move to make the service entirely voluntary.

General RAID, as a military man, viewed the measure with very little satisfaction, and only voted for it in consequence of the assurance of the Government that it was brought forward on the recommendation of the Duke of Wellington. He suggested that instead of a militia the recruiting for the army should be taken in advance for 1853 and 1854, which would give an immediate addition of 15,000 to the army, to be reduced to 7500 from the end of the next year to the end of 1855, which would enable us to place all our regiments in an effective state, at an expense of about £450,000. This would be a much more efficient and much more economical addition to our national defences than the force proposed.

Mr. ELLICE agreed with the last speaker that an addition to the regular army would be more effective, and, he believed, in the end, a more economical means of security than the militia. But a redistribution of our military power, by bringing home from Canada, the West Indies, and other colonies those forces which the great facilities of communication rendered to a large extent now unnecessary, would enable us to provide for the defence of the country without incurring any additional expense.

Colonel LINDSAY supported the bill.

Mr. CARDWELL thought the bill ought to be read a second time, in order to give an opportunity for examining in committee the various suggestions which had been thrown out by hon. gentlemen who had already addressed the House.

Mr. CHAPLIN said that to facilitate the transport of troops the Government ought to advance £550,000 at five per cent., for thirty years, to carry out the proposed railway between Salisbury and Exeter. For such an advance unquestionable security would be given.

Admiral BEAKLEY contended that it was impossible that this country could be taken by surprise in the way pointed out by Lord Palmerston. To send an army of 60,000 men from Cherbourg to this country would require about 60 large steamers, with an escort of half as many more. With 4000 additional seamen and 1000 boys, he could at once, at an expense of £200,000, equip, arm, and man about 30 large war-steamers, quite sufficient to harass and annoy, if not wholly to destroy, the expedition before ever it could reach the shores of this country.

Captain DUNCOMBE thought that the defence of the country should not be left altogether to the navy, and he therefore supported the second reading of the bill.

Mr. M. MILNES supported the bill, deeming it wise to lay the ground for establishing such a permanent force as might act, when necessary, as a large military reserve.

Mr. BEAUFORT said it was a delusion to suppose that by 21 days' drill you could make soldiers of these new levies. He was of opinion that a force thus got together would prove inefficient for its intended purpose.

Mr. DENNIS supported the bill, contending that ample preparations would be the best safeguard against any attempt at invasion.

Mr. M. GIBSON admitted that there had certainly been a panic upon this subject which at one time was very promising, but now it had disappeared before the object was attained for which it had been fomented. He believed it was pretty well understood, that after the second reading of the bill it would be laid aside—that, in fact, there was no serious intention of carrying it into law. Why, then, go on with it at all, when every argument put forward in its favour was an unworthy imposition against the good faith of those Governments with which it was said we were upon the most friendly terms.

Mr. S. HERBERT said that two Governments in succession having stated the necessity for adding to the defences of the country, he was not prepared to take the responsibility of opposing the measure before the House. He would support the bill, because he thought it the cheapest and best mode to have a small and inexpensive force in time of peace, which would be capable of great expansion should the necessity for his services arise.

Mr. STANFORD said that no one could suppose that France would ever think of a permanent occupation of this country; and all they had to guard against would be a sort of marauding expedition, consisting of 15,000 or 20,000. To meet such a danger he thought a militia force well calculated, and he should, therefore, support the bill.

Mr. H. BEVERLEY opposed, and Sir C. BURNELL supported, the bill.

Mr. ROXBURGH admitted that there was a necessity for defensive provisions, arising from the feelings which France still entertained towards England for the check she had received at her hands in her aggression on the continental nations in the time of Napoleon—a feeling which a man like the present President would, if it suited his purpose, take advantage of. This was the danger; but the way to guard against it was not by a militia, but by bringing the great mass of our naval establishment into the Channel; next, by so governing our colonies that we might bring home the soldiers now stationed in them; and, if that were not sufficient, then by increasing the regular army.

Mr. Secretary WALPOLE denied that the bill was consequent upon any apprehension arising from the change of Government in France, a similar measure having been introduced in 1845 by Sir R. Peel, and afterwards by the late Government in 1847 and 1849. He repeated the argument of the absence of present means of defence; and, in answer to the suggestion that troops might be withdrawn from our colonies for the purpose, showed that the force maintained in them was not more than sufficient for their protection; and that any proposal to increase the regular army would have been charged against the Government as evidencing an intention to govern unconstitutionally; besides which, any addition to our regular military establishments would induce other countries to go on increasing their armaments. He disposed of the various suggestions to increase the number of pensioners and to raise volunteer corps; and, contending that a militia was the best means of meeting the difficulty, proceeded to contrast the present bill with that of the late Ministry, to show that it would bear much less severely on the men and on the country. That the plan was not unpopular, was proved by the fact that in Suffolk seventy men had already volunteered.

The House then divided, and the numbers were:—

For the second reading	315
Against it	168
Majority	147

The bill for abolishing the office of Secretary of Bankrupts passed through committee; the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction Bill was read a second time; and, after disposing of the other business on the paper, there being only 22 members present, the House was counted out at half past one o'clock.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

The St. Alban's Disfranchisement Bill was read a third time and passed.

The Copyright Amendment Act was read a second time, and ordered to be committed.

ADULTERATION OF COFFEE.

Lord TORRINGTON presented a petition from the merchants and traders of London and Westminster, complaining of the Treasury minute with respect to the sale of coffee mixed with chicory, and contending for the necessity of rescinding that minute.

The Duke of MONTAGUE supported the prayer of the petition.

The Earl of DEBY admitted the importance of the petition, and expressed his dissent from the doctrine laid down on the subject by the late Chancellor of the Exchequer. Though there might be some difficulty in rescinding the Treasury minute complained of, the present Government would give their best endeavours to prevent the spurious mixture of deleterious articles with coffee.

The petition was then ordered to lie on the table.

The Earl of ROSS gave notice that on Monday next he would move for the appointment of a select committee to inquire into the operation of the acts relating to drainage in Ireland as administered by the Board of Works.—Adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

MEMBERS' OATHS.

Lord J. RUSSELL gave notice that he would on a future day move for a committee of the whole House to consider the oaths taken by members.

Mr. HOBMAN asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department whether her Majesty's Ministers contemplated the introduction of any measure for the reform of the ecclesiastical courts?

Mr. WALPOLE replied that the present Queen's Advocate had paid great attention to the subject, and had submitted to his consideration a draft bill. Whether the Government would undertake to adopt that measure, or any other, at the present moment, he could not, considering that the subject was a very complicated one, positively state.

THE REV. MR. BENNETT.

Colonel BOYLE rose to put to the Chancellor of the Exchequer the question of which he had given notice: and it was the more anxious to do so because he found in Battersby's *Catholic Register* a statement to the effect that Mr. Bennett, late of St. Paul's, Knightsbridge, had been received into the Church. He now begged to ask whether the Chancellor of the Exchequer was prepared to state to the House what steps had been taken by the Government towards instituting the promised inquiry respecting the Rev. Mr. Bennett's appointment to the vicarage of Frome?

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER replied that the Government had lost no time in addressing certain inquiries respecting the law having reference to this case to the law officers of the Crown. The replies of those learned gentlemen had reached him, he might say, only within those few minutes, and he should like to have some time to consider them before he spoke positively on the matter. (Hear, hear.) It was a subject which required the earliest consideration of the Government.

Mr. HOBMAN wished to ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer a question with respect to the facts stated by him (Mr. Hobsman) the other evening. He wished the right hon. gentleman to state whether or not it was the fact that three benefited clergymen in the diocese of London signed a testimonial in favour of Mr. Bennett in the usual form; whether or not that was countersigned by the Bishop of London, and whether the House might have an opportunity of seeing that certificate?

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER thought that, as a *bona fide* inquiry was to be pursued by the Government, to give any information as to details would not be satisfactory.

THE COUNTY FRANCHISE.

Mr. L. KING moved to re-introduce his bill to give the franchise to £10 occupiers in counties, and to assimilate the procedure of county elections with that of boroughs. The principle of extending the county franchise had been often discussed but never assailed; and seeing that the Chancellor of the Exchequer had claimed for his party the merit of introducing that principle, and the Home Secretary had sought to carry it out on the novel qualification of militia service, he could hardly anticipate an opposition from Ministers. It was a singular fact, while the population, wealth, and intelligence of the country had increased, the county constituency had diminished.

Mr. CAMPBELL opposed the motion, on the ground of the advanced period of the session, and the party feeling the discussion of such a measure was calculated to excite. He also thought previous inquiry necessary.

Louisa calls for a division followed Mr. Campbell's address, and strangers were ordered to withdraw, when

Mr. HUME rose and expressed his surprise that a motion for the extension of the suffrage should be allowed to go to a division without a word from the leaders on either side. He detailed some of the gross inequalities which at present existed, and the consequent non-representation of the people's wishes in the House of Commons, noticing, *en passant*, that in the division of the previous evening, with the exception of the member for Liverpool, the majority was composed of members representing small constituencies. He hoped Ministers would state distinctly what their intentions were.

Lord J. MANNERS referred to the state of public business, and the desire of the Opposition for a speedy dissolution, as reasons for not entertaining the motion. Before they assimilated the county to the borough franchise, they should satisfy themselves that the present county franchise had been a failure; but, as far as he could ascertain, both the county and the borough system had worked well—the counties being represented by persons in whom the landlords and occupiers of the soil had confidence; and, with regard to the boroughs, the Opposition could scarcely object to the existing system, seeing that they filled the great majority of the borough seats. In another session Government would be ready to give attention to any well-considered measure for amending the representation.

Lord E. GOSWENOR supported the motion, in the hope that if the House should refuse at present to accept the ten-pound franchise, it would at least agree to the other portions of the bill which would lessen the expense of county elections.

Mr. H. DRUMMOND thought the argument that the session was too far advanced to consider a proposition to extend the county franchise came too late, when they had, without discussion, received a bill to fill the House with paupers. Government, by refusing measures of this kind, were furnishing the means to Lord John Russell to return to office.

Mr. BAIGER protested against the insinuation that the Opposition were retarding public business, and called attention to the fact that Tuesdays were not Government days. He contended that if the representation in the counties as fairly exhibited the wishes of the people as that of the boroughs, the same preponderance in favour of Free Trade would exist in both cases. If the £10 occupiers were allowed to vote, and the result would be favourable to the Government, he should not complain. He should vote for the measure as a most judicious one, and one about which the great majority of the people were most anxious.

After some observations from Mr. Packe, Mr. Wakley, Mr. Buck, and Col. Sibthorp,

Lord J. RUSSELL considered members were perfectly justified in bringing forward motions of this kind, seeing that the Government had not only evinced no desire to take the Tuesdays for their own business, but had reluctantly accepted the Thursdays. He thought the question of the representation, both in boroughs and counties, should be dealt with as a whole; and he hoped in the next session it would be considered, and that this and the other great question, Free Trade, would be finally settled.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER agreed that the question should be considered as a whole. If the great deficiency in the act of 1832 was in the representation of labour, it would not be supplied by the present bill. The remedy proposed by the Reform party for the inequalities of which they complained was not one that gave to labour and to property their respective rights, but one of class legislation. The complaint was, "labour is not represented;" and the proposal of Mr. Locke King and his school was, "let us represent property still more." He denied that the Government associated an extension of the suffrage with an extension of democratic power. If a well-matured measure for giving to the artisan class the suffrage, consistent with the maintenance of those institutions which were as much for their interest as of any other, were brought forward, he and his colleagues would be prepared to give it a calm and dispassionate consideration; but in the absence of any such measure, they would adhere to the existing settlement.

Sir B. HALL inquired whether the observation they had just heard was to be considered but as a mere clap-net for the hustings? If the Chancellor of the Exchequer really meant to give the franchise to the working classes, let him come forward and say that on the question of Reform, as well as on that of Free Trade, he had thrown over the opinions he had held six months ago, and returned to the faith of his early life.

After a few words in reply from Mr. LOCKE KING, the House divided:—

For the motion	149
Against it	202
Majority	53

The motion was accordingly lost.

Sir W. PAGE WOOD obtained leave to introduce a bill to extend the provisions of the Trustees Act of 1850.

Mr. ANSTET moved for papers respecting the recall of Colonel Outram from Baroda, and was proceeding to make a speech on the subject, when he was interrupted by a count out at a quarter to seven o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

The House sat from noon to six o'clock.

COUNTY ELECTIONS EXPENSES.

Mr. CHRISTOPHER moved the first reading of the County Elections Expenses Bill.

Mr. ANSTET opposed the motion.

The House divided, and the numbers were—For the motion, 16; against it, 18; majority, 2.

There not being forty members present, the House was counted; but, some additional members having entered, a House was made, and the business proceeded.

Mr. CHRISTOPHER said, that, as there was no House at the time, the division was of no avail, and he would take an opportunity of moving the first reading of the bill on some occasion when the House should be fuller.

UNIVERSITY TESTS (SCOTLAND).

Mr. MORCROFT moved the second reading of the Universities of Scotland Bill, the object of which was to abolish tests in the universities in Scotland.

Mr. F. SCOTT and Sir R. H. JEWELL opposed the bill.

Mr. MORCROFT, in support of the bill, said its object was to abolish those tests in the universities of Scotland, which were only established for the purpose of preventing Episcopacy in that country, and maintaining the Presbyterian religion, and the repeal of which could lead to no injurious effects upon the Established Church of Scotland. The vice of such tests was that they were always enforced just when they should not be so enforced, and were allowed to go into desuetude just at the time when they should be called into operation.

Mr. BATHURST supported the bill, on the ground that the tests were imperative, and that it was therefore inexpedient to maintain them.

Mr. Secretary WALPOLE could not see how any Government could support a bill which was clearly a violation of the treaty of Union. Such a change could

only be justified upon the strongest grounds; and he must say that the case made out by the hon. gentleman was far too weak to warrant the House in passing such a measure.

After a few words from Mr. ANSTON and Mr. Ewart in favour of the bill,

Sir A. CAMPBELL said the bill was not a violation of the Act of Union, for there were words in that act to the effect that it could only be altered by Parliament; but it was opposed to the Coronation oath; and even if the bill were to receive the sanction of both Houses of Parliament, it could not receive the Royal assent without a violation of that oath.

Mr. H. CAMPBELL said that he appeared to him to be an attempt to do away ultimately with the tests in the English universities.

Lord J. Russell was surprised to hear Mr. Walpole say that no case had been made out, when it appeared to him that he had never heard a more unanswerable case made out for any measure which had been ever brought into Parliament.

The state of the existing law was so anomalous, that it ought to undergo the revision of Parliament, and he should therefore support the bill.

Mr. C. BRUCE gave his decided opposition to the bill, being of opinion that secular should not be separated from religious education, and believing that the feeling of the whole population of Scotland was averse to the measure.

Mr. OSWALD supported the bill.

The House then divided, and the numbers were—For the second reading, 157; against it, 172; majority, 15.

The bill was consequently lost.

THE CHURCH IN THE COLONIES.

Mr. GLADSTONE, after a vain attempt on the part of Sir John Pakington to induce the right hon. gentleman to postpone the measure, moved the second reading of the Colonial Bishops Bill, the object of which was to place the Church of England in our colonies upon such a footing as would enable it to manage its own affairs, subject in certain particulars to such limitations and restraints as Parliament might think fit to direct. He did not propose to give to the Church of England any preference in the colonies; on the contrary, he would not accept such a boon for the Church, believing that nothing could be more fatal to its progress—nothing more ruinous to its interests; his only object was to place all religions in our colonies upon a perfectly equal footing. The right hon. gentleman then proceeded to argue for the necessity of giving a power of synodical action to the Church of England in our colonies, the mode of carrying out that object being left to the colonists themselves.

Sir J. PAKINGTON moved the adjournment of the debate, and it was accordingly adjourned to Wednesday, the 19th of May.—The House then rose.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

Lord REIDEMAN presided on the Woolsack, in the absence of the Lord Chancellor.

GENERAL ROSAS.

Earl GRANVILLE asked the noble Lord at the head of Foreign Affairs a question as to what his Lordship termed the extraordinary honours which he saw by the public papers had been paid to General Rosas on his arrival at Plymouth on Monday last. He wished to know whether these honours had been paid to General Rosas in accordance with official instructions.

The Earl of MALMESBURY said no order had proceeded from the Foreign Office, and he might say none from the Treasury either. The only communication which General Rosas had had with the Government was to ask leave to reside in this country as quietly as possible as a private individual. He came to this country as a fugitive, and seeking an asylum; this, therefore, was not the time to remind him of his faults, and to seek to visit them on him.

In reply to the Marquis of Clanricarde, the Earl of MALMESBURY said that he was not aware, but it was very probable, a Treasury order had been issued to pass General Rosas's effects without search or duty. It was, however, a mistake to suppose that General Rosas was possessed of any great amount of wealth; the fact was that he had fled to this country almost destitute, and in a state of great poverty.

Lord BEACONSFIELD said that while they were on this subject he would take the opportunity of putting a question to the noble Lord relative to the rumoured occupation of Monte Video by the Brazilian troops, and whether that occupation was merely intended as a temporary matter of police, or was likely to be attended by any important political results.

The Earl of MALMESBURY said he believed it was correct that there had been such an occupation, and that Monte Video was now in the possession of the Brazilian troops. He was informed, however, by the Brazilian Minister that this occupation was only intended as a temporary measure.

The Exchequer Bills Bill, and the Sheep, &c. Contagious Disorders Prevention Bill, were severally passed through committee.

SANITARY CONDITION OF THE METROPOLIS.

The Earl of SHAFTESBURY moved a resolution that the sanitary condition of the metropolis require the immediate attention and interposition of her Majesty's Government. The noble Lord entered into the statistics of the sanitary condition of the metropolis, quoting largely from sessional returns, for the purpose of showing that the condition of the metropolis was extremely detrimental to the health of the inhabitants.

The Earl of DERBY expressed his assent to the motion, if the words "and interposition" were struck out.

The motion, as amended, was agreed to.—Adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

"HOUSEHOLD NARRATIVE."

Mr. SCHOLEFIELD said, as some uncertainty prevailed with reference to the intentions of the Government as to further prosecuting the *Household Narrative* for infringing the Stamp Act, he should therefore be glad if the learned Attorney-General would state distinctly what was intended to be done.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said the law officers of the Crown, as well as Mr. Justice Crompton, were dissatisfied with the decision of the Court of Exchequer, and, therefore, he had recommended that a fresh suit should be commenced, on which he had no doubt that the Court of Exchequer would decide according to their previous opinion, without any argument, and then the matter could be carried to a court of appeal, when the law would be finally settled.

Mr. HUME wished to know whether these publications could not be issued without a stamp until the decision of the Court of Exchequer should be reversed?

The CHANCELLOR of the Exchequer said, as a general rule, he must withhold his sanction to any proceeding which might endanger her Majesty's revenue.

NEW WRIT.

On the motion of an hon. member, a new writ was ordered for the election of a Knight of the Shire for Carmarthenshire, in the room of the Hon. Mr. Rice Trevor, now Lord Dynevor.

MILITIA BILL.

Mr. GORDON gave notice, that, for the better consideration of the Militia Bill, he would on Monday move that certain returns connected with the army, ordnance, and navy be laid before the House, and that the bill be not further proceeded with until members are furnished with these returns.

ECCLIASTICAL REFORM.

The Marquis of BLANDFORD moved for leave to bring in a bill to enable her Majesty further to regulate the duty of ecclesiastical personages, and to make better provision for the management and distribution of episcopal and capitular revenues. The noble Marquis said he had two objects in view in bringing forward this motion: the one was to enable the Church to extend its influence through all the ramifications of our rapidly extending population; and the other, to provide a remedy for the spiritual destitution already in existence. To carry out these objects, the noble Lord gave an outline of a plan, the leading features of which were the correction of certain anomalies which now exist in ecclesiastical appointments, and the appropriation of the revenues pertaining to them to the object of extending the benefits of the Established Church. He proposed the suspension of unnecessary deaneries and the profitable occupancy of ecclesiastical residences, the abolition of sinecure cathedral appointments, including canonries without care of souls, and a reduction of the allowances to certain dignitaries of the Church. He proposed that the future income of the Archbishop of Canterbury should be £10,000; that of the Archbishop of York, £8000; the Bishop of London, £5000; and the Bishop of Winchester, £3000. He calculated from these sources there would be derived no less than £20,000 per annum towards the establishment of new sees, and £27,000 for the general purposes of the Church. The management of Church property he proposed to transfer to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners.

Lord R. GOSWENOR seconded the motion.

Mr. Secretary WALPOLE would offer no objection to the introduction of the measure, agreeing as he did that it was desirable to create additional sees, and to provide for the better management of Church property.

After a short discussion, leave was given to bring in the bill.

THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

Mr. HETWOD moved for a select committee to consider the preservation of the Crystal Palace, or the central portion thereof, with a view to its applicability to purposes of public instruction and recreation.

Mr. HUME seconded the motion.

Colonel SMITHOP opposed it.

Lord J. MANNERS said that among the principal causes which had removed the Crystal Palace from the way of the erection of the Crystal Palace, the most urgent was the want of a specific undertaking that the Building should be of a temporary character, and should be removed after it had served its purpose. Against that undertaking her Majesty's Government could not now act with the view of preserving the Palace on its present site. They, therefore, were of opinion that it ought to be removed; but they did not mean to act in any hostile spirit in the matter, but would readily allow all the necessary time and facilities for its convenient removal to another site; and he suggested the vicinity of Battersea as furnishing a most suitable and eligible site. He hoped the House would reject the motion.

Mr. LABOUCHERE and Lord SETON seconded the motion.

Lord PALMERSTON supported the motion.

After some further discussion, the House divided—

For the motion 103

Against it 221

Majority against the motion 118

The motion was accordingly lost.

Adjourned at ten minutes to one o'clock.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

I P. of Lisbon—Look at Mr. Bolton's problem. No 428, and more. It is palpably evident that at the fourth move, when White takes the K B pawn in passing to place the Black King in check, White has given check with his Queen at the third move, and Black answered by taking the check with his K B Pawn; but as this Pawn was arrested in its march, and taken off the board just as it had moved only one step, the Black King remained still in check of the White Queen. Your two problems shall be examined.

W H Y.—You are wrong. White had just played his Rook back to K R 3d, to prevent the very obvious move you suggest.

P W A. Brussels, is thanked both for the game and for the compliment implied by his concluding editor.

G P.—The game played for was one of Mehl's beautiful Terrace Chessboard.

J K. of Ipswich—The "Chess-Player's Companion," by the same author.

W R N. Remus—The fact of a King having been checked does not invalidate his right to move. In the case mentioned, "Q" was justified, the move, in Castling, if there were no other has to be made.

COLONIA.—We should have much pleasure in examining the back Problems again, to test our correspondents' new Solutions, if time permitted; but duty to hand is of other common sense forbids it. He should favour us with an address.

S V S. The Chess-Player's Companion, No 728 are—1. B to Q B 5th. 2. B to Q 7th. 3. R to K 5th. The rest are obvious.

STAYERS. The key move to Enigma 726 is—1. R to Q B 3d. 2. See notice above to Sydney.

R R. of Ashford—No A, as amended, is too simple.

B W V.—No 5 shall appear. No 6 has two solutions.

CLERICS.—You should send your name to Mr. Longbottom, the secretary, and join the St. George's Chess Club. This club has three names a year only (no entrance fee).

CHAMBERS.—The solution of the Enigma 726 by Messrs Petroff and Jaenisch, being much too long for insertion in this Journal, has been transferred, by the desire of the authors, to the Chess-Player's Chronicle; and the first part, we believe, will be given in the May number.

C D X L.—He can claim a Queen for every Pawn he advances to the 5th sq. even while his original Queen is on the board.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No 429, by W F T of Salisbury, Stevens, J M of Sherborn. The solutions of PROBLEM No 431, by W F T of Salisbury, Stevens, J M of Sherborn. The solutions of PROBLEM No 432, by W F T of Salisbury, Stevens, J M of Sherborn.

SOLUTIONS OF ENIGMA No 731, by Stevens, Jack of Shrewsbury. R R. are correct.

SOLUTIONS OF ENIGMAS by A B C, Monks, J P. of Lisbon; J K B, F H B, J M, are correct.

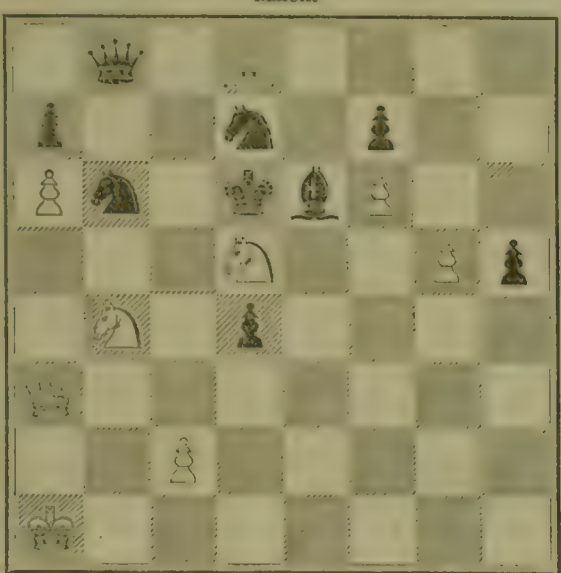
All others are wrong.

The games between Messrs Jaenisch and Schumoff are unavoidably postponed, from want of room, until next week.

PROBLEM No. 432.

From the unpublished MS. of the Rev. H. BOLTON.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in eight moves.

CHESS IN THE METROPOLIS.

The following is one of the games played during the late Chess gathering between Major Jaenisch and Mr. Staunton. (From the "Chess Tournament," a collection of the games played at this celebrated assemblage. Boon, London, 1852.)

(King's Gambit cradled.)

BLACK (Major J.)	WHITE (Mr. S.)	BLACK (Major J.)	WHITE (Mr. S.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	36. K to K B 3d	P to K Kt 4th
2. P to K B 4th	P to Q 4th	37. R to Q 2d	P to K Kt 5th (ch)
3. P takes Q P	P to K 5th (a)	38. K to K Kt 2d	R to K 8th (e)
4. Kt to Q B 3d (b)	Kt to K B 3d	39. K to Kt 3d	R to K 6th (ch)
5. P to Q 3d	P to Kt 5th	40. K to Kt 2d	P to K B 4th
6. P takes P	Kt takes K P	41. Kt to Q 4th	P to K B 5th
7. Q to her 4th	B takes Kt (ch)	42. K to K B sq	P to K B 6th
8. P takes B	Castles	43. B to K B 5th	B takes B
9. Kt to K B 3d	K R to K sq	44. Kt takes B	R to Q 6th (f)
10. B to K 2d	K Kt to Q 3d (c)	45. Kt to K 6th (ch)	K to B sq
11. B to Q Kt 2d	K R to K 5th	46. Kt takes K Kt P	R takes Q R P (g)
12. Q to K B 2d	Kt to Q B 5th	47. Kt to B 2d	R to Q R 8th (c)
13. Castles on Q's side	Kt takes B	48. R to Q sq	R takes R (ch)
14. K takes Kt	Q to Q 3d	49. Kt takes R	K to K 2d
15. Q R to Q 4th	R takes K B P	50. Kt to K 3d	K to Q 3d
16. K takes R	Q takes R	51. K to his sq	K to K 4th
17. Q to Q 4th	Q to her 3d	52. K to K 4th	K to K 5th
18. K to K sq	B to Q 2d	53. P to Q B 3d	P to Q Kt 4th
19. B to Q 3d	P to K R 3d	54. Kt to K Kt 4th	K to K B 4th
20. P to K Kt 4th	Kt to Q R 3d	55. Kt to K 3d (ch)	K to K B 5th
21. P to K Kt 5th	Kt to Q B 4th	56. P to Q 6th (h)	P takes P
22. P takes P	Kt to Q R 5th (ch)	57. Kt to Q 5th (ch)	K to K 5th
23. K to Q R sq	Q takes P at K R 3d	58. Kt takes Q Kt P	K to K B 5th (f)
24. R to K Kt sq	R to K sq	59. K to K sq	Kt to Q 6th (ch)
25. Kt to K 5th	Kt to Q Kt 3d	60. R to Q 2d	K to K 4th
26. P to Q B 4th	Q to K B 3d	61. P to K Kt 4th	K to K 4th
27. Kt to K B 3d	Q takes Q (ch)	62. K to K 3d	K to K 5th
28. K Kt takes Q	Kt to Q K 5th	63. P to K R 5th	K takes P (e)
29. Kt to Q K 3d	P to Q Kt 3d	64. Kt to Q R 8th	Kt takes Q B P (ch)
30. K to K sq	R to K 4th	65. K takes P	P to Q R 5th
31. K to B sq	Kt to Q B 6th	66. K to K 4th	P to Q R 6th
32. K to Q 2d	Kt to K 5th (ch)	67. K to Q 5th	Kt to K 6th (ch)
33. K to K 3d	Kt to K Kt 4th	68. K to K 4th	Kt to K 8th
	(dis c)	69. P to Q B 4th	Kt to Q Kt 7th
34. K to K B 4th	P to K B 3d	70. Kt takes P	Kt takes P
35. R to K Kt 2d	Kt to K 6th (ch)		

(a) This mode of evading the King's Gambit has long been known and occasionally practiced in England. Since playing the present game, our attention has been directed by Major Jaenisch to an article on the subject in the *Schachzeitung* for June, 1850, entitled "Fa-k-bet-Lecturer's Variation" from which it appears that the opening has lately been brought into vogue in Vienna by Messrs Falkbeer and Ledorfer, two Austrian players of some note. The move of P to K 5th is certainly an unorthodox one to the first player, for it proves not merely a defence, but a counter attack of considerable power.

(b) In a note which the late Mr. Hanlon appended to the article just mentioned, the line of play recommended as the best for the first player is to move his K B to Q Kt 5th (checking); the game then proceeds in the manner following:—

BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.
4. K B to Q Kt 5th (ch)	P to Q B 3d	(Interposing the Q B is justly decided by Mr. Falkbeer, the author of the analysis, as inferior)	
5. P takes P	P takes P	7. P to Q 4th	K B to Q 3d
6. B to K B 4th	B to K B 3d		

Mr. Hanlon considers this to be the second player's best move, and observes that the advantage of position which he has obtained is not sufficient to compensate for the loss of his Pawn. From a subsequent number of the *Schachzeitung* it appears that Mr. Falkbeer, instead of playing 7. K B to Q 3d, is in the habit of moving 7. Q to her Kt 3d, and has found it successful in maintaining the counter-attack against many strong opponents. We must confess, that neither 7. K B to Q 3d, nor 7. Q to her Kt 3d, appears to us to avail much, and cannot help preferring a move which occurred in a game at this opening which was played with Major Jaenisch. The move was 7. Q Kt to Q 2d; and to this, even with the assistance of our distinguished competitor, perhaps the most acute and unswerving analyst living, we have not yet discovered any perfectly satisfactory answer for the first player. In one of our games the latter move ran thus:—

BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.
7. Kt to K 3d	Q Kt to Q 2d	10. Q Kt to Q B 3d	P to Q Kt 5th
8. K B to K 3d	Q Kt to K 3d	11. Castles	K takes Q Kt
9. K B to K 3d	B to Q Kt 3d	12. P takes B	K Ks to Q 4th

And the second player has undoubtedly the superior game. If, at the 11th move the first player had moved his Q B to Q 2d, the following seems a probable continuation:—

BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.
11. Q B to Q 2d	Castles	12. Castles	
(Taking the Q P, though a natural move, is not a good one, since his opponent might first take the Bishop (checking), and then play his R to K sq.)			
12. Kt to K 3d	K B takes Q Kt	13. B takes B	Q Kt to Q 4th

And again the second player has the advantage.

(c) Far better, we believe, than the more apparent move of Kt to K B 3d.

(d) While certainly failed to make the most of the advantages to be acquired in the beginning.

(e) Threatening mate next move.

(f) The only possible move to secure his advantage of position.

(g) Again threatening mate. The way in which White's Kt and K B P confine the adverse King, is somewhat curious.

(h) A good conception. Without great care now, White will be unable to win.

(i) Intending to march on with his K B P.

(j) K to Kt 6th would have enabled White to win, we think; but taking the Pawn, though a slower, was a surer process.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

THE COMMAND IN AUSTRALIA.—Major-General James Campbell, R.H., an old Peninsular soldier and a regimental officer, upwards of twenty years commanding the 95th Regiment, has been appointed to the command of the troops in Australia and its dependencies, which includes New Zealand. Major-General Campbell, we understand, will leave England about July or August next, by one of the new line of steamers, for Sydney.

THE EXPEDITION TO THE SOUTH SEAS.—The *Herald*, 28, Captain Henry Manley Denham, arrived at Woolwich in the latter part of last week, from Chatham, and, with her tender, the *Torch* steam-vessel, Lieut.-Commander Chimmo, will be speedily ready to leave on their exploring voyage to the South Seas. The *Herald* will take on board, at Woolwich, her chronometers from Greenwich, and a great variety of presents for the natives of the southern islands. The *Herald* has been fitted and equipped in the most efficient manner for the interesting service in which she will be engaged, with her tender the *Torch*, for the long period of from five to seven years.

CHATHAM.—Orders have been received at this garrison to prepare barracks-room for the reception of detachments of infantry, who, in common with the Royal Sappers and Miners of the Queen's service, and the troops of the Hon. East India Company's *dépot* from Warley Barracks, are to be placed under the engineer department, for the purpose of receiving practical instruction from the officers of that corps in the art of constructing field works for purposes of attack and defence.

"FIRE QUARTERS" IN MAIL STEAMERS.—The crew of the *Ripon*, which has just left with the overland mail, were drilled previous to their departure by Captain Austen, the new Admiralty superintendent of mail packets at Southampton, and went through all the evolutions necessary in case of fire on board, particularly with reference to managing and lowering the boats, &c. It is expected that ultimately these exercises will be repeated also on board the mail packets while they are at sea, under the superintendence of the Admiralty agents.

THE "EREBUS" AND "TERROR."—We have reason to believe that Sir Edward Parry, and other experienced Arctic voyagers, entertain the opinion that the ships seen by the merchantmen attached to the iceberg, off Newfoundland, were in reality the *Erebus* and *Terror*, abandoned by Sir John Franklin and his companions.—*United Service Gazette*.

SEAMEN'S HOSPITAL.—At the usual anniversary dinner, which took place at the London Tavern, on Monday, Mr. Hume, the chairman, bore testimony to the vast improvement which had taken place in the condition of the merchant seaman since he first went on board an India-man, 56 years ago. The benefits of the charity had now been conferred on no less a number than 65,587 patients, of whom nearly one-half were foreigners. During the evening subscriptions to the amount of £1450 were announced, which included 100 guineas from her Majesty, £500 from the Trinity Corporation, £200 from the Emperor of Russia, 100 guineas from the East India Company, and £250 from the Duke of Northumberland.

Admiral Parker's flag-ship *Queen*, 116 guns, Captain Wise, arrived at Portsmouth from the Mediterranean on Tuesday morning. Neither the *Redoubtable* nor *Sampson* steam-frigates, which had been sent to look out for her, had fallen in with her.

Instructions have been issued by the Admiralty ordering that the Admiralty agents on the Brazilian, Mediterranean, Peninsular, and West India stations should be repeatedly transferred from one station to another, in order that they may all become intimately acquainted with the pilotage of the routes and ports connected with each of those stations.

GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION.—THE WELLINGTON CAMPAIGNS.

THE proprietors of the Gallery of Illustration in Regent-street, encouraged by the unexampled success of their first attempt, the "Overland Mail to India," have produced a new series of scenic realities upon a subject which must ever be of national and historical interest, the "Campaigns of the Duke of Wellington." We are informed in the descriptive guide that nearly two years have been occupied in the preparation of this gigantic diorama, as we can well believe, considering the vast number of incidents which it embraces, the scenes of which stretch from Hindostan to the north of Europe. Great accuracy is vouchsafed for in regard to the features of the spots themselves; Mr. W. Telbin having himself visited Spain and Portugal to obtain the necessary sketches for the Peninsular campaign, Mr. John Burnett having supplied drawings of the field of Waterloo, and the Indian scenery being obtained from the most authentic sources. The panorama commences with the birth-place of the great hero, Dangan Castle, in the county of Meath, and then takes us at once to India, where a terrible scene of the storming of Seringapatam, with which the Duke (then Colonel Wellesley) inaugurated his brilliant and world-wide career; then follow, intermixed with their appropriate episodes, the storming of the Drog, or Mill Fort, on the road to Assaye, and the bloody, but decisive victory of that name. The Peninsular campaign opens with a very beautiful view of Lisbon. In the numerous tableaux which follow, illustrative of the victorious course of our army, the proprietors announce that they do not profess to depict battles and sieges with rigid regard to technical military details, but rather to give just ideas of sites, actions, local colour, costumes, &c. In this, as regards pictorial effect, they are decidedly right, whilst for historical usefulness there is more to be attained from an accurate representation of the bearings of the various theatres of conflict, accompanied by intelligent *verbal* explanations, than from a confused mass of soldiery in the heat of action, and necessarily to a great extent concealed by smoke. The names of Grieve, Telbin, and Absolon are a sufficient guarantee for the artistic execution of the varied succession of scenery thus brought before us; and where the contending forces are introduced, they are realised with an exactitude almost equal to the best groupings of the stage. Curious effects of atmosphere, of water, and of light are studied, to give greater effect to particular scenes; as, for instance, very happily in the interior of the chapel where the body of General Crauford was laid after the battle of Ciudad Rodrigo, and which Lord Wellington visits by candle light at night, accompanied by some of his attendants. All of a sudden the living spectators of the sad scene quit the sacred spot, the candles are extinguished, and nothing remains but the corpse, wrapped in its martial cloak, dimly distinguishable by the light of the moon. Upon the whole, however, perhaps the most striking and effective scene is that of the storming of San Sebastian, of which our Artist has taken the accompanying sketch, and of which the particulars will always be read with lively interest:—

The town of San Sebastian is built in a conical shape, on an isthmus of the sea, isolated by a tidal river. The hill above, about 400 feet high, is fortified strongly. To dislodge the French from this hold in the rear of his advances, was essential to Lord Wellington. The harbour, moreover, offered a point for embarkation, which he foreaw might be necessary from the increasing hostility of the Spaniards and Portuguese towards the English, their deliverers. Unable to be everywhere at once, Lord Wellington confided the attack to Sir Thomas Graham. The place was excellently garrisoned by 3000 men, under General Rey, and the French, "masters of the sea," supplied him amply. Graham, acting contrary to the advice of the best engineers, failed August 25, and fell back after an unprofitable loss of brave men. Then Lord Wellington was forced to come in



"THE STORMING OF SAN SEBASTIAN," FROM THE NEW DIORAMA OF THE CAMPAIGNS OF THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON, AT THE GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION, REGENT-STREET.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

BRONZE STATUE OF THE DUKE OF RUTLAND.

This noble tribute to his Grace the Duke of Rutland has just been erected in the market-place at Leicester, and was inaugurated with great ceremony on Wednesday.

The Statue, which has been ably executed in bronze, by Mr. E. Davis, represents the Duke of Rutland in the act of receiving the address voted to his Grace on the fiftieth anniversary of his holding the office of Lord-Lieutenant of the county of Leicester. The figure is colossal in size, and is placed upon a lofty stone pedestal, which bears the following inscription:—

John Henry Duke of Rutland, K.G., Lord-Lieutenant of Leicestershire. The inhabitants of the county and towns, during the fiftieth anniversary of his high office, with universal consent, caused this Statue to be erected. 1850. Presenti tibi, maturos largimur honores.

HAYMARKET THEATRE.

On Saturday, an original drama by Mr. Mark Lemon was produced. It is entitled "Mind your own Business." The character to which this title applies was enacted by Mr. Buckstone, and named Mr. Oddiman. He is a rural middle-class person, who interferes in the love-makings and other doings of his village. Without being a necessary agent in the drama, he nevertheless serves to precipitate matters, especially in the first act. Marian Morrison (Miss Reynolds) is loved by her neighbour, Mr. Verdon (Mr. Webster), who has wooed her through her sister Fanny (Mrs. String). The girl, however, has formed an attachment for a young artist, Arthur Moubray (Mr. Howe). Somebody misinterprets these facts, and informs Verdon, who has made the usual application to the lady's father, that he is accepted, and brings him on the scene to be rejected. Verdon, thinking that he has been made the victim of coquetry, flies from his estate, and, in the second act, is shown in London, drinking himself to death. Parties of pleasure, also, he visits, and forms one at a *demi-sejour*, Mrs. Smythe's (Mrs. Buckingham), the wife of a rich colonial adventurer, who had been formerly a footman (Mr. Keeley), now shelved by his loving spouse on account of his mispronouncing the W's and other obvious vulgarities. The ex-dunky, however, has

a soul, and, acting on a suggestion of *Oddiman's*, breaks up the party by appearing in his cast-off footman's clothes. All by the unwelcome apparition; and the end is, that a separation is consummated between Mr. and Mrs. Smythe. At this Mrs. Smythe's we find, too, Fanny Morrison, recommended as lady's companion by Mr. Oddiman. Improper proposals are made to her by one of the guests, Mr. Orgrave, M.P. (Mr. Leigh Murray), and the poor girl dies to save her honour. In the third act we find her pursued by her tempter to a roadside inn; but fortunately Verdon has also stopped there, and is summoned by her cries to the rescue. Verdon, indeed, had not long since renewed his acquaintance with Fanny, who had followed the unhappy man from Mrs. Smythe's to his hotel, and in a moment of vinous delirium recalled him to himself and past recollections. This is the scene which forms the subject of our illustration. Acting on her advice, Verdon had resolved to travel homeward; and now she is rewarded for her virtuous interposition. A meeting of all parties soon takes place, and Marian has an opportunity of vindicating her conduct, and proving to Verdon, that, as it was to her sister Fanny his former courtship had been confined, his real passion must also have been for her. Reflection and internal conviction make him ascertain that this is psychologically true; and thus his heart-wounds are at last healed by the discovery of the right object of his love.

Such is the leading argument of this drama, which is throughout written with care, point, and refinement of style. Perhaps it owes everything to the polish of dialogue, which carries the writer safely through many situations and dramatic difficulties which really require more vigorous treatment. Neither is the play perfect in structure, there being more than one needless link, and many stirring passages that serve no other purpose than temporary excitement, leading themselves to nothing. Concealing these faults, the play has great merits as a picture of life and a story of interest. It was well acted throughout; but the burthen lay on Mr. Webster, who, as the rustic gentleman and disappointed lover, seeking oblivion in the pleasure that leads to premature death, had a character which none can perform so well as he. We are happy to record that the house was full; and, at the fall of the curtain, the applause universal.

Last week it should have been stated that the new burlesque of "O, Gemini" is the joint production of Mr. Mark Lemon and Mr. Gilbert à Beckett.



COLOSSAL BRONZE STATUE OF THE DUKE OF RUTLAND, JUST ERRECTED AT LEICESTER.



SCENE FROM THE NEW COMIC DRAMA OF "MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS," AT THE HAYMARKET THEATRE.

THE TAXES WHICH OBSTRUCT THE SPREAD OF EDUCATION.

There is scarcely any political or social question of importance which does not require to be presented repeatedly, and in different points of view, to public consideration—to be well ventilated, as the phrase is—before the force of popular opinion can be brought to bear upon it with such irresistible effect as to dissipate completely, like mists before the power of the sun, all objections which are raised against its just and final settlement.

The impediments thrown in the way to obstruct the propagation of popular instruction and knowledge, by the fiscal exactions and harassing regulations which the existing state of the law empowers the Excise to make at the very outset of the formation and manufacture of the means and instruments of education—viz. books, newspapers, and other periodicals—present a case of this kind. These impediments to the cultivation of the mind and intellect of the multitude are not appreciated at their full enormity by the public opinion and judgment of the country at large, else they would be at once swept away as a degrading and mischievous remnant of the barbarous legislation of an unenlightened age.

In order, then, to put the whole question in its true light fully before the public, we give, in a condensed form, the speech of the Right Hon. Milner Gibson, M.P. for Manchester, on Thursday week, in the House of Commons, which treats the subject with rare ability and completeness:—

MR. M. GIBSON, who had a notice on the paper in the following terms:—“To bring under the notice of the House the policy of deriving revenue from taxes on knowledge, and to move, in separate resolutions, that such financial arrangements ought to be made as will enable Parliament to dispense with the duty on paper; that the newspaper stamp ought to be abolished; and that the tax on advertisements ought to be repealed”—said that, in bringing under the consideration of the House a proposal for the repeal of any portion of taxation, and for lessening thereby the public income of the country, a member of that House laboured under considerable difficulties, for there naturally arose an impression in the minds of honourable gentlemen that such a proposition proceeded from what was termed “an ignorant impatience of taxation;” and that the motion had been dictated by some clamour out of doors, resulting from an indisposition to pay any tax whatever. He admitted that there were persons rather indiscriminating in the course they took with reference to a repeal of taxation; but he, for one, had always endeavoured to avoid supporting any motion or encouraging any views for the repeal of taxation, unless he had first satisfied himself as to the grounds on which such views were based. He hoped, therefore, he might be understood as bringing forward the present motion on grounds of public policy in reference to the character of the taxes themselves, and their effects on the morals and industry of the nation, rather than on the effect they had in increasing the price of particular articles to the consumers of this country. Another difficulty under which he laboured was connected with the financial statement which the Government would shortly submit to the House. They were sometimes told, after the Budget had been laid before Parliament, that, as the financial arrangements for the year were completed, it was improper to bring forward any motion for a repeal of taxation; and at other times it was said it was improper to bring forward a motion of this kind before the financial statement was made. Thus, according to these two views, it would be impossible for an independent member to find any fitting time to submit to the House a proposal for the repeal of taxation. (Hear, hear.) He conceived, however, that it was the legitimate function of a member of that House, without in the slightest degree questioning the necessity on the part of Government to exercise the most extreme caution before they parted with any portion of the public income of the country, to investigate the sources of our taxation, and ascertain whether the money to be raised for the support of our establishments might not be raised in a better manner than at present. In bringing forward the present motion, he would state to the Government, that he did not represent, as it were, any suffering interest. Neither papermakers, nor newspaper proprietors, nor the publishers of cheap literature did he profess to represent on the present occasion. His desire was simply to represent the public interests; and if it should be alleged as an answer to his case, that particular paper manufacturers were not in favour of his motion, or that particular newspaper proprietors would rather retain the stamp duty in reference to certain vested interests, he distinctly stated that that was no argument against the position he was now taking, because it was on public grounds that he asked for the repeal of these taxes. Neither could he permit this question to be viewed as a party one. It would be in the recollection of the House, that two sessions ago he submitted the question to its consideration, and was then supported by gentlemen of all political views; he, therefore, now approached the subject without feeling that he was advocating a party question, which was to give, as it were, a triumph to gentlemen on one side of the House over gentlemen on the other; but he conceived he was advocating a question which had its foundation simply in the general interests of the community, and of persons of all political parties. The question he was now submitting to the House had the good fortune to be supported two sessions ago by no less than four distinguished members of the present Government. (Hear.) Such a position was an enviable one for an independent member of Parliament, and he should not assume, in any remarks he might make, that there was any hostility on the part of the Government to the motion he was about to submit to the House, though he could fancy it just possible that official restraint might, under peculiar circumstances, prevent those who were really disposed to be favourable to the cause from agreeing to his motion at that particular moment. The first proposal he should make had reference simply to the question of the paper duty, and here he would remind the House, that, in submitting this general motion for the repeal of the taxes on knowledge, he did not propose to ask any gentleman to commit himself to a large reduction of taxation at the present moment. He did not propose that the three proposals for the remission of the paper duty, the newspaper stamp duty, and the tax on advertisements, should be decided on by the House in one vote. He meant to ask the opinion of the House on each proposition separately, so that those who were in favour of one proposition might vote for it without reference to the others. His own opinion, however, was, that all the three propositions should be carried. With respect to the first proposition, respecting the duty on paper, he was only calling on the House to agree to the resolution come to by one of its own committees in 1834. Nay, he was not asking the House to go so far as that resolution of its own committee, adopted at a time when the public revenue and the financial condition of the country admitted of much less experiment with taxation. The committee of 1834 came to the resolution, that it was desirable that the duty on paper, in conjunction with two other duties, which he need not now refer to, should be, on general and commercial grounds, totally repealed without delay. Now, his proposition was not so strong as that of the committee of 1834: it was simply, “that such financial arrangements ought to be made as would enable Parliament to dispense with the duty on paper.” That was a moderate proposition, and only called upon the House to pass an opinion that the duty on paper was not such a tax as ought to be considered part of our permanent system of taxation. He was not asking them to pass their pen through the act of Parliament which imposed the duty on paper, but only to suggest to the Government that in their financial arrangements they would be consulting the permanent interests of the country if they would make such arrangements as with safety to the public revenue would admit of the repeal of the paper duty. This he held to be a most moderate and legitimate proposition to submit to the House, and one which he hoped no gentleman, who was not in favour of the paper duty as being a good tax, would be prepared to resist. He should have to notice the injurious effect of the paper duty in impeding the circulation of knowledge; but, if he were to omit all allusion to the oppressive regulations consequent upon it, under which the manufacturer laboured, and to the bad effect of the paper duty in preventing the employment of labour, and in preventing this country becoming an exporting country of paper, he should not do full justice to the subject. With regard to the oppressive regulations, he admitted that that was but a complaint against the whole Excise system, but he did not admit that so strong a case with respect to the manufacture itself and the employment of labour could be made out from any other article on which the Excise duty fell as could be made out in reference to paper. He would remind the Chancellor of the Exchequer, that the regulations in reference to the manufacture of paper were most oppressive and vexatious, making it scarcely possible for the manufacturer to touch the very paper he had made. Nevertheless, they were not found sufficient to protect the honest manufacturer from the fraudulent papermaker. It was an undeniable fact that large quantities of paper were sold which it was notorious had never paid the Excise duty, and this paper came in direct competition

with that manufactured by the fair and honest trader. With respect to the employment of labour, let him, as he was addressing a Government which felt for the agricultural interest, remind the Chancellor of the Exchequer that the manufacture of paper was one of our rural manufactures, and that the clear streams of Buckinghamshire were best adapted for carrying on the paper manufacture. (Hear.) The Excise duty, however, had shut up all the paper-mills by the side of those streams, and the paper manufacturers were more and more reduced in number, and thus was shown the effect of the Excise duty in creating a congestion of capital, and throwing the whole business in the hands of a few great capitalists. He would read an extract from a letter addressed to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and written by a gentleman well entitled to speak on such a subject—namely, Mr. Ingram, the proprietor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS:—

I yesterday did myself the honour to forward for your acceptance a copy of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, of which I am the proprietor, that I might bring under your notice a copy of your portrait engraved for that journal. (Laughter.) I now take the liberty of addressing you upon a subject of national importance—affecting not only the trade and the literature of the country in general, but the welfare of the agricultural population in many districts, and especially in Buckinghamshire and Hertfordshire. The subject I allude to is that of the Excise duty upon paper, with the whole effect of which I am particularly acquainted, not only as a newspaper proprietor, but as an extensive manufacturer and consumer of paper. Your long and honourable connexion with literature, and the high position which you now occupy in the councils of her Majesty, justify me in believing that you will do me the honour to listen to the facts which I proceed to lay before you, in explanation of the practical injuries inflicted by this impost—injuries which were, I am certain, never contemplated as possible when the tax was first levied:—I need scarcely explain to you, that, when paper is made, it is wet: that, as the Excise duty is levied upon the weight, the paper-manufacturer naturally dries the paper, that it may be as light as possible when he is favoured with the visits of the Excise officer; and that, after it has been so dried, and paid the duty, it must be wetted again before it can be used in the printing-office. This double process of drying and wetting, besides being attended by a very considerable expense for labour, naturally damages the quality of the paper; and, moreover, involves an additional cost in subjecting it to pressure, that the article may recover the glossy and smooth surface it has lost. Now, I have found by experiment and trial that paper can be manufactured in a fit state for the printer, with a beautifully smooth surface, which would not be impaired by printing and drying, and that printing upon such paper could be carried to much higher perfection as an art, both for letterpress and engravings, than can be attained by paper dried and re-wetted according to the present practice.* The dampness of such paper would be scarcely perceptible to the touch, but would require, for such paper as the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS is printed upon, a weight of steam or water amounting to no less than 13 lb. per ream. If I were to use such paper in my business, I should have to pay an Excise tax upon water of no less than 1s. 7½d. per ream, in addition to a tax of the same rate per pound on the paper itself. Now, I consume 20 tons of paper per week, or 1040 tons and upwards per annum—a fact which I state that you may see at a glance what an enormous sum I should have to pay as a penalty for using the improved paper, which I could manufacture by the aid of a little water. I am quite willing and prepared to inform all printers and paper-makers of my experiment and its results, which could be immediately adopted with much benefit to all concerned, provided we could obtain a removal of the Excise duty. Among other innumerable objections to the impost, which as a practical man I could point out, I may be permitted to remind you that it involves considerable trouble and expense in the collection, both to the manufacturer and to the Custom-house, and prevents books from being printed where they ought to be printed, namely at the paper-mill itself. Were it not for the operation of the Excise duty, I could print at my paper-mill educational books, Bibles, Testaments, &c., and, indeed, every description of books, at the cost of the ink added simply to that of the paper, a fact which, with others equally important, I think I could satisfactorily prove to you, if you would grant me the honour of an interview. You must, sir, in your youth, have wandered along the beautiful streams of Buckinghamshire, and listened to the busy sound of the water-wheel tearing to pieces an otherwise useless article, to manufacture it into valuable paper; and it must have given you pleasure to reflect that this gave healthful, pleasant, and remunerative employment to great numbers of the rural population. Most of the Buckinghamshire mills have, I grieve to remind you, been swept away under the operation of the Excise duty, and transferred to barren but populous coal districts, leaving the population of Buckinghamshire unemployed, and, to a great extent, pauperized. I have no hesitation in saying, that, if the Excise duty upon paper were abolished, these mills would be again prosperous, and employ large numbers of people. Nor is this the only evil result of the tax upon agricultural districts. One article—straw—which is produced by the farmer, is no sooner employed in paper-making, for which it is well adapted, than it is taxed 300 per cent. I need not dwell at further length upon such a positive injury to agriculture as that is.

He believed it could be proved that three-fifths of the value of paper consisted in the labour of men, women, and children; and, considering that the agricultural districts were precisely the localities best adapted, from their water power and the purity of their streams, for the paper manufacture, he contended he had some claim to submit this motion to the consideration of gentlemen opposite, even as an agricultural question. (Hear.) With regard to Ireland, he had no doubt whatever that the repeal of the Excise duty would have a most beneficial effect in producing the employment of labour. The Excise duty necessitated a much larger capital than would otherwise be required for the commencement of a paper manufactory; and, therefore, in a country which was so pressed down by difficulties as Ireland, and where there was a deficiency of capital to carry on various branches of industry, it was important that a manufactory so valuable in respect to the employment of labour as the paper manufactory should no longer be shackled by this Excise duty, especially when it was borne in mind that the Irish portion of the duty raised was very small; for the effect of the duty was not so much to produce revenue, as to prohibit to a great extent the manufacture from which it was desired to derive revenue. (Hear.) He had a very short extract from a letter written by a gentleman in Ireland upon this question, and he said:—

As a manufacturer I give constant employment and full wages to 300 individuals, all of this locality—most of them instructed by myself (this gentleman wrote from Drissey-mills, near Cork); and I am told by the clergymen of the parish, both Protestant and Roman Catholic (for I enjoy the friendship of both), that I keep more than twice that number out of the workhouse. I devote my time and attention to my business, with the exception only of one day in the week, the best portion of which is given to my duties as Poor-law guardian of this union.

Thus showing the importance of the repeal of the paper duty as an industrial question, and there could be no reason why this country should not manufacture paper for the whole world. (Hear, hear.) We might be exporters of paper as we are of cotton goods, if by our foolish duty we did not actually cause the Americans to come into this country to buy up cotton waste and refuse of rope for the express purpose of manufacturing paper and sending it to supply our own colonies. That was a system that did not supply revenue, but it deprived this country of a valuable manufacture, and prevented the employment of labour, and the improvement of the moral and physical character of the people. He had touched upon these points with regard to the question of revenue, but at the present time he held that the most important view of this question, that peculiarly belonged to it, and did not apply to any other question of Excise or taxation, was the effect of this duty on the literature of the country. He must ask the favour of the hon. gentlemen opposite, if they condescended to go into the question, and also those who sat on his own side of the House, not to make use of that argument that had been, as it were, a stop argument in opposition to a proposal for the repeal of the paper duty. It was said the duty on paper entered to so small an extent into the relative price of books, that the purchaser of books would not feel the effect of the repeal; and the late Chancellor of the Exchequer and Mr. Fox Maule had both used that argument, and had quoted the example of Mculloch's “Commercial Dictionary.” That book, it was said, weighed 4½ lb., and sold for 50s., and the paper duty being only 1½d. per lb., amounted upon that book to 6d. only; and what would be the reduction of 6d. in the price of a book that sold for 50s.? He had only to say in answer to that statement, that it had no reference to the position he took upon the question. (Hear, hear.) His position was the effect of the paper duty, not upon expensive works that sold for 50s., but upon a cheap and popular literature that sold at a low price, and the return for which was derived from an extensive circulation. (Hear, hear.) That was the species of literature he was touching upon; but, even if he were to allude to the others, he should like to know if a reduction in the price of books was to be of no value to the purchasers of books? What was the meaning of their having repealed the duties on Bibles and Prayer-books, but because they wished to increase the circulation of those sacred volumes, and they knew that the Excise duty on paper had to some extent the effect of prohibiting the circulation of them? That view of the question which he was urging was not at all met by

* The beautiful and ingenious process here referred to has, since this speech appeared in the daily papers, been tried by several publishers and large consumers of paper, and its great advantages fully recognised; and there is nothing to prevent its being brought into full operation but the vexatious regulations and excessive taxation which the Excise imposes—a striking instance of the injurious effects of the present state of the law upon all improvements in the manufacture of paper.

the argument about Mculloch's “Dictionary;” and he asked as a personal favour that upon this occasion, at least, it should be omitted, though he knew it had been used as an official argument when the repeal of the paper duty had been proposed. He would point out what appeared to be really the injurious effect of the paper duty upon cheap literature. It was not that it raised its price, but it could be demonstrated mathematically that it deteriorated its quality—(Hear)—that it stood in the way of improving the quality of that literature that might be circulated among the people, and which that House had a deep public interest in taking every step in their power to render as moral and improving as possible. They had cheapness; they wanted goodness. They had their penny publications; what stood in the way of making them as good as they could be made?—the paper duty; and he would explain how that operated. Take the case of a penny publication, and he would quote from Mr. Cassell, who was extensively engaged in the publication of excellent works, calculated to improve the great body of the people. One of those works was entitled—and justly entitled—the “Popular Educator.” That gentleman expended something little short of £100 per week, paid to the Government in hard cash, for circulating his penny publications. The duty on the paper used in those publications took away that £100 per week. If it were repealed, the publications would still be issued—the price would not be reduced—it was low enough to secure a large circulation—but he would not put that £100 into his own pocket; competition would force him to lay it out in the improvement of those publications, and he would expend it in a higher order of authorship and better literary talent than he was able to employ at present. It was a monstrous thing that, to issue penny publications in this country—such a publication as the “Popular Educator,” or the “Working Man's Friend”—a man should be called upon to hand over week by week to the Government £40 or £50, the fund out of which authorship would be paid. A man who did not care what he published, and who only looked to cheapness and issuing translations from French novels and a variety of matters that appealed to the passions for the purpose of a large circulation, might copy what he wanted from other works, and the paper duty which he paid did not stand in the way of his penny publications, because he did not want any fund out of which to pay authorship; but if they wished to meet that question in the market as to circulating those publications, which were as bad as they were cheap, they must create a fund out of which authorship should be paid, and a higher order of literary talent should be employed. He had received a letter from a gentleman who, he was sure, the House would admit was a high authority on this subject—Mr. C. Knight. It was dated from Fleet-street, the 19th of April, 1852. He had published one or two excellent pamphlets on the question of the paper duty, known by the name of “The Struggles of a Book against Taxation,” and also the case of authors in reference to the paper duty, and he said:—

It is difficult to add anything new to the arguments which have been urged in the House of Commons and by other modes for the abolition of the paper duty. A few points have struck me in addition to what I have written on the subject. Amid much which is injurious or frivolous in cheap publications, I think there is a manifest tendency towards the moral and intellectual improvement of the general character of our popular literature. The conductors of periodical works almost exclusively addressed to the working classes, as they are termed, appear to me to have commenced ceasing to think that it is necessary to write down to their readers. As a natural consequence of this tendency, writers of information and ability are more needed, perhaps more employed. But this tendency is counteracted by the paper duty. I will explain myself as briefly as I can. If £250 be given for the authorship of a large octavo volume, it operates as a charge of 5s. per copy if 1000 copies be printed, and the book must be high-priced; but if 10,000 be printed, the authorship only enters into price at the rate of 6d. per copy, and the book may be low-priced. But the paper duty upon such volume amounts to 6d. per copy, whether 1000 or 10,000 be printed; and if 10,000 be printed, amounts to as much as the authorship. Reduce the payment of authorship, and the value of the book is injured; take away the paper duty, and you neither lower the quality nor limit the sale of the book. There is then a fund for the better remuneration of that labour which is to raise the quality and extend the sale, and thus advance the great end of all popular literature—the diffusion of knowledge and the elevation of the moral and religious character of a people. But it is said that the repeal of the paper tax would only operate as a bonus to publishers, without lowering the price of books to the public. I believe that the ordinary effects of competition would determine this doubt very satisfactorily. It is possible that there might be no direct lowering of price in many cases of low-priced books, but I am quite sure that there would be an improvement of quality. The number of printed pages sold for 1s. might be the same as now, but there would be better paper, better type, and, what is more important, improved authorship. Publishers of very cheap books would look for something to publish having a copyright value, instead of bad translations and hackneyed reprints. Beyond this, large undertakings, of which we have very few now, would have a greater encouragement were the paper duty repealed, for the price of voluminous works could be directly lowered and their sale consequently increased. I will give an example. I have determined to bring out a new Cyclopædia—the “Imperial”—founded upon the “Penny Cyclopædia.” It will form 20 volumes. If I print 5000 copies, the taxed paper would cost £12,000, of which the actual duty would amount to £2250, and the direct and indirect additions to cost, consequent upon the duty, would, as I believe, double the tax. Looking at the operation of the cost of paper alone, I could reduce the price of the book 5 per cent. to the subscribers if the tax were removed; but, taking into consideration the fact that I could then print 1000 copies at the price at which I could stereotype the 20 volumes (which process is chiefly employed to save the outlay of capital in taxed paper), I could reduce the price 10 per cent. The effects of such a tax upon prices are not to be measured by its direct amount. For example, it may be said that the drawback of duty upon exported books allows the foreigners to be charged as low a price as if the paper were untaxed. This is really not the case. The drawback only represents the positive tax, and not the increased price consequent upon the tax. Assume that I can sell 500 copies of my “Cyclopædia” to an American publisher at £5 a copy, the taxed paper costing me £1200, I obtain a drawback of £225, which reduces the price of the 500 copies to £2275, at which rate they were invoiced. The American tariff of 10 per cent. adds £227 10s. to the importer's outlay, making a total of £2502 10s. But if I could buy my paper untaxed, I consider that I should save, in various ways, £450, so that I might reduce the price to £4 2s. per copy, to which the tariff would add £205. The importer would therefore save £247 10s. That advantage to the importer of 10 per cent. would probably double my sale in the United States. One portion of the advantage would be the diminished amount of tax which he would pay to his own Government. The direct tax, and its collateral effects, in one country produce similar effects in another country, raising the price to the consumer, and thus narrowing the market of the producer. The chief argument which I have constantly urged for the repeal of the paper duty is, that the tax bears most unequally upon the lower-priced publications, as compared with the higher priced, and therefore interferes injuriously with the education of the people. Upon the wholesale price of a modern novel it is 1½ per cent. Upon Mr. Dickens's *Household Words* it is 12 per cent.; it is 2½ per cent. upon the *Quarterly Review*; it is 17 per cent. upon *Chambers's Papers for the People*. Look at the inequality as regards the two latter examples of periodical works, addressed to different classes of the community. 1000 copies of one number of the *Review*, sold for 6s., pay a duty of £4 14s.; 1000 copies of one unbound volume of the *Papers*, sold for 8d., pay a duty of £3 6s. If there were an *ad valorem* duty of 5 per cent. upon all printed books, 1000 copies of the *Review* would pay £15, and 1000 copies of the *Papers* would pay £13s. 4d. It is estimated that the annual sales of all books and periodical works, not newspapers, amount, at the retail price, to £2,000,000. An *ad valorem* stamp of 5 per cent. would raise as much as the paper duty upon printed books, and would operate less injuriously. Capital would not be locked up in tax, for the stamp would be demanded as the demand for copies went on; and the manufacturer's and stationer's profit upon the tax would be got rid of. The public would then really understand that a tax upon paper is a tax upon knowledge, and would not be deceived into a belief that because it enters into the price of a 12s. volume to the extent only of 6d., its removal would not benefit the great and increasing body of book purchasers. Such a mode of levying the tax upon literature would be more obnoxious than the paper duty, though less harmful; but there would be justice in the principle instead of the gross inequality of the existing law.

He thought that made it clear that if they were sincere in their desire to spread education, they ought to evince that sincerity by taking off this paper duty. It was not a consumers' or trade question, it was a moral and important national question. It was monstrous to teach the people to read if they did not at the same time do all they could to improve the quality of the books they were likely to peruse; and the demand for penny publications was so great, and the appetite for knowledge of some kind or other was so strongly evinced by the extensive transactions of men engaged in that branch of business, that they must not suppose there would not be an extensive circulation of some kind of cheap literature or other. That was no longer a matter of doubt—it was a matter of certainty; and, therefore, every well-wisher of the real interests of the country must desire that the quality of that literature which was circulated should be as good as it could be rendered. (Hear.) He had dealt with the paper duty at the same time with the advertisement and newspaper stamp duties, because they had originated at the same time, had been put on together, and he should be glad to take them off together. He admitted that the duty on paper, amounting to about £800,000 a year, though a small sum to be set against the moral improvement of the people, was too large a sum for him to ask the House to repeal. The resolutions in regard to the advertisement and stamp duties called upon him to apply for an immediate repeal; but the resolution as to the paper duty only called upon them to give their opinion that it was not fit to be continued as a permanent tax. He had a great suspicion that the paper duty, under the specious disguise of raising money for carrying

on the war, was really part of a system for the purpose of restraining literature and keeping down the press. These duties being enacted in the same year, he could not help thinking that perhaps the same motive that had actuated Parliament as to the paper duty had actuated them in enacting the advertisement and stamp duties. Now, the advertisement duty amounted to £150,000, or, if they pleased, £160,000 a year. Was that a large sum to be frightened at when they talked of repealing duties, considering how large a surplus revenue they had, and considering that this tax upon advertisements struck, as he believed, more than any thing that existed, at the very revenue they proposed to increase by it? (Hear, hear.) A tax upon advertisements—that no man might say what he wished and what he wanted to be known in the way of business transactions in print and in a newspaper, but he must be fined 1s. 6d. each time he did so. It was, he said, impossible to conceive a more stupid tax. If he wanted a mode for lessening the public revenue, he would suggest a mode which lessened transactions between men and the means of making their mutual wants known to each other—which lessened, in fact, trade, consumption, employment, and revenue; and he would undertake to say that if they repealed this advertisement duty, they would never know it in their next year's revenue. (Hear, hear.) But, if that were true, could there be conceived anything more unjust than to say to a poor servant girl, who wanted a place, "You want a place; if you make it known to the world by the only means which exist, you must be fined 1s. 6d. each time." Take the case of ships, merchants' transactions connected with sales of every kind. Could anything be more obvious, than that preventing the knowledge of what was going on was the surest mode of preventing the improvement of all commercial transactions and of the public revenue? There was nothing one man wanted to sell but another man could be found who wanted to buy it; and, if they were judicious, they would not stand in the way of those mutual wants being made known: the difficulties that were unavoidable were great enough. Look at the United States of America. They had 10,000,000 of advertisements in their newspapers in a year. In England there were only 2,000,000: 8,000,000 were knocked off by the advertisement duty. And who were the advertisers who had to pay each time 1s. 6d.? The poorest of the people. The rich advertiser, who took up a column of the *Times*, only paid his 1s. 6d. The poor servant girl, who only took a line of that paper, paid just as much. There was no justice in the tax itself when considered in principle; but the inequality was most glaring—it was not founded on equality in the distribution of its burden or upon sound principle, because, whether a person advertised in a paper of large or small publication, he was fined 1s. 6d. every time he made known his wishes. He could not believe that the raising of £150,000 could be a reason why rational beings should persist in maintaining a tax so opposed to commercial purposes and sound principles of legislation. They might advertise on a wall, in an omnibus, or by the advertising vans, and no duty was imposed; but let them go to a newspaper, and they were fined 1s. 6d. Now, the advertisement fund was a legitimate fund for supporting newspapers, and, if they drove men from newspapers by saying they should pay 1s. 6d. fine, they took the most direct and effectual mode for injuring the newspaper press. After some observations on this part of his subject, the right hon. gentleman passed to the question of newspaper stamps. He had promised that he could show that this newspaper stamp was no revenue question at all, and had never been imposed by the Legislature, or continued by the Legislature, on any such footing. For how had this stamp originated? On the 17th of January, 1711, Mr. Secretary St. John informed the House that he had a message from the Queen. The message then read ran thus:—

Her Majesty finds it necessary to observe how great license is taken in publishing false and scandalous libels, such as are a reproach to any Government. This evil seems to be grown too strong for the laws now in force; it is therefore recommended to you to find a remedy equal to the mischief.

The answer of the House was in these words:—

We are very sensible how much the liberty of the press is abused, by turning it into such licentiousness as is a just reproach to the nation, since not only false and scandalous libels are printed and published against your Majesty's Government, but the most horrid blasphemies against God and religion; and we beg leave humbly to assure your Majesty, that we will do our utmost to find out a remedy equal to the mischief, and that may effectually cure it.

In accordance with this address, the House proceeded to pass certain resolutions, which he had copied from "Hausard's Parliamentary History."—

Some members were so exasperated at the Dutch memorial being published in a newspaper, that, on the 12th, the House being resolved into a grand committee to consider of that part of the Queen's message to the House, the 17th of January last, which relates to the great license taken in publishing false and scandalous libels, Sir Gilbert Dolden being the chairman, they came to these two resolutions:—"1. That the liberty taken in printing and publishing scandalous and impious libels creates divisions among her Majesty's subjects, tends to the disturbance of the public peace, is highly prejudicial to her Majesty's Government, and is occasioned for want of due regulation of the press." "2. That all printing-presses be registered, with the names of the owners and places of abode; and that the author, printer, and publisher of every book set his name and place of abode thereon. These resolutions were ordered to be reported the Tuesday following; but the said report was then put off till that day's evening, and afterwards further adjourned from time to time, some members having, in the grand committee on ways and means, suggested a more effectual way for suppressing libels, viz. the laying a great duty on all newspapers and pamphlets.

Such was the commencement of this tax, for after this came the imposition of the newspaper stamp, and the advertisement duty and the paper duty. It was clear, then, that this was not a revenue question at all. An idea, however, had sprung up, that though the stamp duty had not been imposed for revenue purposes, the postal advantages which had been connected with it were such that the duty had better remain as it was, since it enabled newspapers and other printed papers to be transmitted through the post free from other charge. Now, this question of the postal transmission of newspapers, &c., had nothing to do with the newspaper stamp. Make what regulation you please for the transmission of printed newspapers by the post, but do not compel a man to stamp his newspaper or other printed writing, whether he wants to transmit it by post or not. (Hear, hear.) He asked them, therefore, to repeal this newspaper stamp upon principle. Could they enforce their law, after all? and what was the news on which they professed to be able to impose a tax? Could their law officers define it? They were at this moment engaged in a lawsuit with one of the most popular writers of this country—Mr. Charles Dickens. The *Household Narrative of Current Events* was a very nice, excellent newspaper, but it was published monthly. The Board of Inland Revenue having suppressed many other monthlies of a similar character, had tried to put down this, but Mr. Dickens was prepared to contest the matter in a court of law. The judges had decided, after all the expense incurred, that the *Household Narrative* was not a newspaper, and that Mr. Dickens had a right to print news upon a paper free of stamp duty if he did not do it oftener than once a month. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Dickens had got a verdict, but the Attorney-General declared that he was ready to disturb the decision of the judges, and that he was going to have another lawsuit in order to ascertain whether that paper was liable to the stamp duty or not. But that was a great grievance. In the case of the *Household Narrative* they were fighting with men of property and spirit; but how many were there in the country who had either not moral courage enough, or not money enough, to go into a court of law against the Board of Inland Revenue? (Hear.) If they were afraid to enforce the tax, they should repeal it; and if they could not enforce it equally, they should not maintain it, because by so doing they would be guilty of the grossest injustice. The right hon. gentleman, having quoted various documents and publications in support of his views, concluded by submitting the first resolution to their favourable consideration.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer observed in reply, that, with respect to the advertisement and stamp duties, they were subjects which deserved the gravest consideration; but he must consider them primarily with reference to the effect of their repeal upon the general revenue. The advertisement duty was one which ought to be gravely considered, and the Government had considered it. He distinguished that and the stamp duty very much from the duty on paper, which was so large that every one should hesitate before he consented to relinquish it. All these matters, however, depended entirely upon the state of the finances, and the House must feel the great inconvenience of coming to a premature decision on questions of this kind. Under these circumstances, he felt it to be his duty to oppose the motion.

[Ultimately the debate was adjourned to a future day within the next week or two, in order to give an opportunity of seeing how the Chancellor of the Exchequer might deal with the question in his Budget.]

Lord Mansfield has been appointed by the Earl of Derby Lord High Commissioner of Scotland.

MUSIC.

NEW PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.

The third concert took place on Wednesday night, at Exeter-hall. There were three overtures in the programme—Mendelssohn's "Isles of Fingal," Weber's "Euryanthe," and Beethoven's "Ermont." There was also a selection from Spontini's fine opera, "La Vestale," in which Madame Clara Novello, who sang superbly, Herr Reichart, and Herr Standigl, had the principal parts; but the items in the scheme, which absorbed the attention and aroused the enthusiasm of the immense auditory to the highest degree, were the "Romeo and Juliet" symphony of Berlioz, and Weber's pianoforte "Concertstück," performed by Madame Pleyel, who may safely be pronounced to be the greatest pianiste of the age, combining as she does the surest and most wondrous mechanism, the most fine and intellectual reading, and the most poetic touch. Such applause as was bestowed at the conclusion of her astonishing and fascinating performance, is rarely called forth in this country. Equally overwhelming was the ovation rendered to Berlioz at the end of the symphony, as well as at the close of each movement. He has won the suffrages of our musical audiences by the magic influence of his genius: it has been a battle over professional prejudices, intense intolerance, artistic ignorance, and bigotry; but the victory has been for art development and progress, against the stand-still purists and dogmatists.

THE QUARTETT ASSOCIATION.

Under the patronage of the Queen, Prince Albert, and the Duchess of Kent, a new series of classic *matinees* commenced on Wednesday, at Willis's Rooms. The permanent executives will be Sainton and Cooper (who will lead alternately), Hill and Platt; but a new pianist will be introduced at each meeting. The programme comprised the well-known quartet by Mendelssohn in E flat, Op. 44, No. 3, and Beethoven's in E minor, Op. 59, No. 2; besides one in E flat by the famed Cherubini, heard for the first time in this country, which produced much excitement, the *chœur* being redemanded, and the *larghetto* being of surprising loveliness. The entire work is a gem, worthy of comparison with the standard classic chamber compositions. It was splendidly played. Mr. W. S. Bennett and Platt, in the sonata duo of the former in A minor, for pianoforte and violoncello, won also the suffrages of the connoisseurs, as much from the polished execution as from the intrinsic beauties of the new work. *Mlle. Claus* will perform at the next meeting, on the 12th; and the association has begun auspiciously.

M. PRUDENT'S CONCERT.

M. Emile Prudent, a pianist and composer of fame from Paris, gave a morning concert on Thursday, at the Hanover-square Rooms, under the direction of Berlioz, with a full orchestra. The vocalists were Jerry Treitz and Herr Reichart. The chief object was to display the talents of M. Prudent both as a writer and as an executant, and in both respects he can take high ground. He occupies a position between the classic models and the forms of the modern romantic school. His pastorale, "Les Champs," with band; the study, "Les Réveries des Fées;" the caprice, "La Sonambule;" and the "Chasse," exhibited M. Prudent's inventive faculties and his competency to embody them most favourably, and he was extremely well received by the fashionable auditory.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

The second concert for the exhibition of the students took place last Saturday, under the direction of Mr. Lucas. The novelties in the programme were a MS. overture, "As you like it," by Italy, an associate; two part songs, "Gather ye rosebuds," and "Twas when the seas were roaring;" and a song, "Farewell," by Miss Charlotte Rowe, an associate. There was an average amount of ability in these new compositions. The solo players were Miss Whitworth and Mr. R. Thomas, in movements from pianoforte concertos by Beethoven and Mendelssohn; and Mr. Simmons and Mr. Colchester, in a violin and viola duo by Spohr. The performances of these students were very creditable. A madrigal, by Brinley Richards, "Ye little birds that sit and sing," and the overture and *finale* of the second act of Macfarlane's "Don Quixote," were inserted in the scheme, as a compliment to two talented associate honary members. The remainder of the selection was confined to the solo displays of vocalisation of the most accomplished pupils, amongst whom must be mentioned a *debutante* of great promise, Miss Palmer; who, despite of distressing trepidation, developed, in Mozart's "Quando miro," a contralto voice of most sympathetic quality. Miss Freeman's rendering of "Che farò," by G. Lick, and the singing of Miss Mary Rose and Miss Street, must also be honourably recorded.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF MUSICIANS.

On Monday night, at Exeter Hall, the annual performance of Handel's "Messiah," for the benefit of the above admirable institution, was given, under Costa's direction, the members of the Sacred Harmonic Society kindly affording their aid in the band and chorus. Every vocalist and instrumentalist performed gratuitously on this occasion, and the sell were distributed amongst the following distinguished artists:—Soprano: Madame Clara Novello and Miss Louisa Fyde. Contralto: Madame F. Lablache, Miss M. Williams, and Miss Seymour. Tenors: Mr. Lockey, Mr. Sims Reeves, Mr. Swift, and Mr. Benson. Basses: Mr. Phillips, Mr. Lawler, Mr. J. A. Novello, Mr. Barnby, and Herr Formès. Mr. Brownsmith was the organist. The hall was well filled to listen to this rare artistic combination in the oratorio. It was announced that the magnificent pianoforte, manufactured by the firm of Broadwood, and presented to the society, will be disposed of by lottery.

MUSICAL EVENTS.

The Edinburgh critics write in most eulogistic terms of the compositions of Mr. Mudie, the pianist, a London professor, now residing in the Scotch capital. An allegro marziale in E flat, a sketch for a fairy fantasia, a nocturne, a valse brillante, two sonatas, and some vocal pieces, are stated to fully maintain the reputation Mr. Mudie has justly acquired as a composer.—Next Monday will be the fourth concert of the Philharmonic Society, and the second meeting of the English Glee and Madrigal Union.—On Wednesday will be Mr. Lucas's third musical evening, the third concert of the Beethoven Quartet Society; the fifth of the London Wednesday Concerts; Mr. Aguilars's evening concert; and Mr. Brinley Richards's first performance of classical and modern pianoforte music.—On Friday, Mr. W. R.'s first pianoforte *soirée*—The third concert of the Amateur Musical Society took place, under Mr. Osborne's direction, at the Hanover-square Rooms, last Monday.—Herr Jansa, the violinist, gave his second *soirée* at the Queen Anne-street Rooms on the same evening.—The English Glee and Madrigal Union presented the first of a series of four morning concerts at Willis's Rooms, on Monday last; Mrs. Endersohn, Miss M. Williams, Mr. Francis, Mr. Land, Mr. Lockey, Mr. Hobbs, and Mr. Phillips were the vocalists. The performances gave the highest gratification to a fashionable and ancillary.—Mr. Horsley, the veteran composer, has presented the Union with some MS. glees.—M. Billiet gave his sixth and last pianoforte *soirée* on Tuesday last, at St. Martin's Hall.—Mr. Neate, aided by S. Union, Cooper, Hill, and Platt, had his sixth and last quartet and pianoforte *soirée* at the Queen Anne-street Rooms, on Wednesday.—The fifth meeting of the Musical Institute took place last night, in Sackville-street.—The London Sacred Harmonic Society, under Mr. Surman's direction, performed last night, at Exeter-hall, Mendelssohn's "Elijah," with the Misses Birch, Williams, C. Henderson, Mrs. Temple, Messrs. Lockey, Perren, Collett, Weeks, and Phillips, as chief vocalists.—The Misses MacAlpine, the clever sister vocalists, gave their first concert at the Hanover Rooms on Tuesday night, assisted by the Misses Birch and Dolby, Messrs. Wrighton, Swift, and Whitworth, Platt, Botte-int, Van Heddeghem (violinist), and Mr. Kialmark (pianist).—Signor and Madame Ferrari's *soirée musicale*, at the Hanover-square Rooms, in addition to their own vocal abilities, was supported by those of the Misses Dolby and Ramsford, Madame Macfarlane; Messrs. Swift, Henry, and Borran; Miss Kate Loder, Mr. W. H. Holmes, and Herr Pauer, pianoforte; Mr. J. B. Chatterton, harp; Mr. Regondi, concertina; Mr. Clement, violin; and Mr. Ayiward, violoncello; with Messrs. F. Mori and Kialmark as accompanists.—Miss Helen Taylor, a pupil of Cravelli, and a rising vocalist, entertained her friends and patrons on Wednesday, at an evening concert at the Hanover-square Rooms, with the powerful co-operation of Madame Clara Novello, Miss Dolby, Miss Bassano, Miss Emily Trickett, another promising pupil of Cravelli; Signor F. Lablache, Messrs. Swift, Benson, Whitworth, and F. Rodda; Miss Kate Loder, the accomplished pianist; Mr. Blagrove, violin; and Mr. Lucas, conductor.—Two *concerts* were given on Tuesday morning and evening, under the direction of Sir George Smart, on the opening of the Town-hall, Chertsey, the proceeds being applied to the local charities. Mrs. Endersohn, Miss M. Williams, Messrs. Francis, Hobbs, Land, Lockey, Phillips, Sterndale Bennett, Eyles, and Williams, were the vocalists and instrumentalists.—Her Majesty and Prince Albert have been graciously pleased to become the patrons of the Choir Benevolent Fund; and his Royal Highness has signified his intention of being present at the full choir service at Westminster Abbey next Thursday. The choir will consist of 100 voices, from twelve of the Cathedral and Collegiate choirs; and after the service a selection of anthems from the compositions of the most eminent writers will be performed. Sir G. Stuart, Messrs. Hobbs, Machin, Francis, Rainbow, and Addison are the committee of management, and Mr. G. Gray is the secretary. This fund was only established last year, for the benefit of the widows and orphans of the members, and has already received large subscriptions.—The death of Mr. J. Burrows, the well-known composer, principally known for his elementary works and arrangements, has caused a vacancy in the position of organist of St. James's Church, Piccadilly, which he held for nearly forty years. Several candidates are in the field; but, if the question be decided on its musical merits, the struggle can only be between Mr. Best, a first-rate player, and Dr. Gauntlett, also a very fine executant. The last-mentioned musician is profoundly acquainted with the history and philosophy of music; Mendelssohn entertained the highest opinion of his attainments.

FOREIGN MUSICAL NEWS.

Our Paris letters supply us with contradictory accounts of the new five-act opera, "Le Juif Errant," produced on the 33d ult. at the Grand Opéra, the music by Halévy, the direct elements by M. de St. Léon, and the libretto by MM. Scribe and de St. Georges. As to the splendour of the spectacle, and the excellence of the execution of *Mlle. Emma la Grue* (the new *prima donna* from Dresden), *Mme. Tedesco*, *M. Koeber*, *Obin*, *Depassio*, *Canap*, *de Guineau*, *Noir*, and *Masoli*, who played and sang the "Wandering Jew" to perfection, there is no difference of opinion; but "doctors differ" materially as to the interest of the drama and the merits of the music. Eugene Sue's romance has not at all been resorted to by the authors for the poem. They have selected the beginning of the thirteenth century, when Baudouin Count of Flanders and the Crusaders ruled over the Greek empire. The first act is in Antwerp, and

Asheria, the Wandering Jew, appears in the midst of a war of elements, learning on his stick. The second act is in Bulgaria, at the foot of Mount Hemus; the third act is in Constantinople; and the last two acts at a ruined temple on the banks of the Bosphorus. The last scenes are in the Valley of Jehoshaphat, with the *Angel Exterminateur*, who tells *Asheria* that he must wander still, heaven and hell, which are actually depicted, being equally closed to him. This blasphemous stage exhibition will be an effectual bar to the introduction of the "Juif Errant" in its present shape in this country, even if it be Halévy's masterpiece.

THE THEATRES.

HER MAJESTY'S.

After the second performance of "Norma," on Saturday night, which was honoured by the presence of her Majesty and Prince Albert, a new ballet divertissement by M. Gosselin, with pretty music by Nadaud, called "La Fête des Rosières," was successfully produced, *Mlle. Rosati* making her first appearance in the principal character. The interesting village life of the Rosière, in which the best-conducted rustic maiden is crowned in public, has been a fertile subject for the ballet-master; and if M. Gosselin's inventive powers have not been distressingly taxed, he has skillfully employed familiar materials to present a series of animated groupings and of characteristic *pas*. *Rosati*, *Esper*, *Lamoureux*, *Allerini*, and even the male dancers, *MM. Mattia* and *Mathien*, mingle in spirit measure in the throng; out of which must, however, be signalled the antelope bounds and minute steps of the rapid *Rosati*, whose *poses* are more poetical, and gyrations more graceful, than ever. She brought down the applause from all sides continuously and earnestly.

A very admirable interpretation of "Il Barbiere," with Cravelli's clever but eccentric *Rosina*, Belletti's finished singing in *Figaro*, Calzolari's artistic rendering of the *Count*, and Lablache's matchless piece of comedy in *Dr. Bartolo*, was given for the second time on Tuesday; but a very fine impersonation of *Basilio* by the new barytone Ferretti has scarcely yet been sufficiently enjoyed. Something was wanting certainly in the singing, the music being too low for his register; but we rarely recollect the cringing, crawling, sneaking, cowardly, and malicious attributes of *Basilio* embodied with greater tact, vigour, and *finesse*.

On Thursday, for the extra night, Beethoven's immortal and only opera, "Fidelio," was revived, with an infinitely improved cast on that of last season. The only two artists retaining their original parts are Cravelli and Merceniale (*Jacquino*). Signor Fortini is the successor of Casanova as the *State Minister*. Signor Belletti replaces Colletti as *Don Pizarro*, Calzolari succeeds Mr. Sims Reeves as *Fernando*; Susini, the new *basso*, assumes *Rocco*, vice *Blanchi*; and *Mlle. Feller* follows Madame Giuliani as *Marcellina*. With the exception of Giuliani, whose loss is irreparable, the disposition of the *dramatis personæ* has been much ameliorated. Susini is a young *basso* from Bologna, with a fine voice, which he may turn to good account if he will attend more strictly to his intonation. Belletti's singing of the arduous air in D minor, "Ah! vendicor!" is excellent, and his thorough knowledge as a musician was amply displayed in the concerted pieces. Cravelli has shown greater signs of improvement in her acting and singing in *Leonora Fidelity* than on any previous occasion. She is no ordinary artist to play *Norma*, *Rosina*, and *Fidelio* on three consecutive evenings; and therefore it is that amateurs must feel so anxious about her future, the triumphs of which will essentially depend on subduing exaggeration, and in striving less for ultra effects. Her delivery of the recitative is more careful, and her general observance of the text more conscientious; but she may yet accomplish a more classic and finished reading than she has yet achieved.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.

The announced *début* of *Mlle. Wagner* in *Fidelio*, in Meyerbeer's "Prophète" did not take place on Saturday night, owing to the injunction obtained by Mr. Lumley against her and Mr. Frederick Gye, the director. On Tuesday her first appearance was again posted, but the application for a dissolution of the Vice-Chancellor's fiat was postponed on Monday *sine die*. It is rumoured that the cause will come on to-day or early in the ensuing week. In the meanwhile Donizetti's "Martiri" was substituted, for the third and fourth times, the *finale* of the third act, and the duo between Madame Jullienne and Signor Tamberlik, in the last act, creating, on both occasions, an most unprecedented sensation.

On Thursday the incomparable Grisi made her first appearance this season, as *the Norma*, and afforded another striking proof of the undying vigour which has enabled her to see out so many *prime donne*, year after year. Her reception can readily be conceived, but her continuation will always be difficult to describe; so fresh, spontaneous, and fiery is her marvellous rendering of the Druidical Priestess. Herr Formès was *Orestes*, Tamberlik *Pollio*, and *Mlle. Bertrandi Adalgisa*. The second and third acts of "William Tell," with Madame Castellan, *Mlle. Bellini*, Herr Ander, Signori Ronconi, Tagliacoe, and Marini completed the bill of the extra night.

Meyerbeer's "Huguenots" will be revived to-night, for the first appearance this season of Mario.

SADLER'S WELLS.

On Monday Sir Bulwer Lytton's comedy of "Money" was performed; the part of *Dudley Smooth* being capably acted by Mr. Marston. The "Rivals" followed, when the same actor performed *Sir Anthony Absolute* for the first time, with great success. The irascible humour was given with perfect unction; and if Mr. Marston has any intention of undertaking this line of parts, there is no room to doubt but that he will prosper in the attempt. "Ion," also, has been played with great success, Mr. Robinson sustaining the part of the hero with great ability.

SURREY.

The Bateman children have been starring at this theatre for some time with considerable success. On Monday they appeared in a new piece, written expressly for them by Mr. B. Bernard. It is entitled "The Old and New School," and is well calculated to bring out their peculiar characteristics.

The legitimate drama, we understand, is to have soon a new trial on this stage. Miss Glyn is engaged for twelve nights from the 10th instant, and will appear in her great characters.

MARYLEBONE.—Mr. Anderson appeared on Monday at this theatre, in the character of *Hamlet*.

OLYMPIC.—"Hamlet" was also performed here on Monday, Mr. Henry Farren essaying the part.

Mr. Charles Dickens and his colleagues being about to perform in behalf of the new Guild of Literature, in the Town-hall at Birmingham, application was made on Saturday last to the magistrates for a special licence. This was opposed on behalf of Mr. Simpson, the lessee, and the proprietors of the Theatre Royal; but, after a two hours' hearing, the magistrates unanimously agreed to grant the licence.

THE LONG DROUGHT.—From the 18th of February (being the last day of heavy rain) to Wednesday last, the number of days on which any rain, snow, or sleet has fallen may easily be enumerated. They are only the following seven:—

		Inches.
Feb.	28	0.02 A light shower of sleet
March	1	0.15 Showery
"	2	0.03
"	27	0.02 Snow in the morning
"	29	0.5 Rain in the night
April	4	0.01 Slight shower, forenoon
0.28		

Not three-tenths of an inch of rain in nearly the latter half of February, the whole of March, and three weeks of April! What becomes of the ancient popular character of these months? February fill-dyke, wet March, and showery April?

GENERAL ROSAS.—The *Conflict*, steam-sloop, Commander Grey Skilpith, arrived at Devonport on Monday afternoon last, from Falmouth, having on board General Don Juan Manuel de Rosas, late Governor of Buenos Ayres; two daughters, Señorita Donna Magnolia Rosas and Donna Mercedes Rosas; two sons, Don Juan Rosas, and Don Juan Manuel Rosas; and two servants, one brigadier-general, three colonels, one trumpet-sergeant, and servant. Immediately on the ship coming to anchor, the custom-house authorities communicated to General Rosas the orders of the Lords of the Treasury that the baggage of himself and suite was to be paid free—a communication which afforded the General great satisfaction. The ex-Governor, family, and party, landed at the dockyard on the following day.

ALARMING ACCIDENT.—At half-past twelve o'clock on Wednesday, while the numerous staff of officials attached to the Marylebone Court-house was engaged in its various departments, a frightful crash, which shook the whole building to its centre, was heard. All the officers, who happened to be there at the time, imagining that the building was tumbling, rushed towards the street-doors, where for some minutes they remained, wholly unable to imagine the origin, extent, or danger of the supposed damage. At length some entered the Court-house, when they found that the tremendous noise was caused by the snapping of the chains of one of the clock-weights; this weighed 18 cwt., which fell with a dreadful crash from the watch-tower, upwards of 100 feet high, to the flooring of the Court-house, which, strange to say, sustained the ponderous weight without the under ceiling sustaining any injury. Nothing beyond the fright resulted from this strange accident.

The estimates for the civil service of the year ending 31st March, 1852, which have been printed, exhibit an increase of £ 233,964, as compared with those of 1851, and of £ 116,443 over those of 1850. The following are the departments in which an increase over the sums granted in 1851 has taken place, with the amount of such increase:—Public works and buildings, £112,678; salaries and public departments, £36,378; law and justice, £196,763; education, science, and art, £34,843; superannuations and charities, £25,265. Under the head of "Colonial, consular, and other foreign services," there is a decrease of £53,315; and in special and temporary objects one of £116,517.

The menagerie of the Royal Surrey Zoological Gardens has recently received the addition of a pair of fine young lions, which were brought to this country by the screw steam-ship *Proponit*, and have been purchased by Mr. Tyler for his establishment. The animals attract much attention from their extreme playfulness, and are rapidly recovering the effects of their long confinement at the Cape and on shipboard.

LAW AND POLICE INTELLIGENCE

In the NEW WATER-COLOUR GALLERY are many works of which we have made note, with a view to elaborate criticism; but our limits prescribe brevity for the present. We must point attention, however, to L. Haghe's fine "Interior of the Audience Chamber of Magistrates du France de Bruges;" M. Angelo Hayes's large piece of "The 16th Lancers breaking the square at Aliwal, 28th January, 1846," a masterly design, panoramic in comprehensiveness, and wonderful in clearness of detail; a very warm and lovely "Sunset from the Corniche, Riviera de Levante, Gulf of Genoa," by Charles Vachu: two pieces by Henry Warren—one of "A Hunchback telling a story" from the "Arabian Nights," in a coffee-house at Damascus, with a truly Oriental group of listeners; and the other a pleasing study of the "Maid of Assam;" Corbould's "Godiva," about to start upon her celebrated equestrian excursion, which would have been the better, perhaps, for a little subduing of tints; besides several landscapes by Aaron Penley, W. Bennett, T. Lindsay, and others.

The *Courrier de Marseille* announces that a discovery of some interest has been made in Egypt. It is said that Mr. Allen, the engineer of a company formed to work the emerald mine at Mount Zuesat, near the borders of the Red Sea, has found at a great depth traces of an ancient civilization. There are various antiques, domestic utensils, and an inscription of hieroglyphics. Belzoni was of opinion that this mine was worked in early times; and it now stated that the inscription ascribes the commencement of the works to the age of Kamesis Sesostri—more than sixteen centuries before the event from which our calendar takes its date.

A return just printed shows that the total number of registered steam-vessels on the 1st of January last was 1218, whose tonnage, exclusive of engine room, is 185,366 tons.

(From our City Correspondent.)

And, as the following are the timing money quotations:—
Oxford, 10; London, 10; Bristol, 9; Exeter, 8; Ambergate, Nottingham,
and Boston Eastern Junction, 7; Bistol, 6; East Anglian, 4; London, 4;
East Anglian, 4; Ditto, £18, 3s.; Eastern Counties, 9s.; Edinburgh, 10s.
gov., 33d.; Great Northern, 20s.; Great Western, 9s.; Lancashire and Carlisle,
7s.; London and Brighton, 10s.; London and North Western, 12s.; Ditto, 3
Shares, 27s.; Ditto, Fife's, 15s.; London and South-Western, 9s.; Manchester,
Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 3s.; Midland, 6s.; Ditto, Birmingham and Derby
North, 10s.; Abergavenny, and Hereford, 5s.; Norfolk, 3s.; North British, 6s.

THE MARKETS.

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FRIDAY, APRIL 23

St. Isabella Frances, youngest daughter of the late Major-General Komer.—On the 5th inst. at her residence, Orange-road, after a long and painful illness, Margaret, the wife of Sir William Collins, Knt. Jurat of the Royal Court of Grenada, in the 65th year of

not ago.

NEW MUSIC, &c.

FRENCH ORGANDIE MUSLINS.—The FRENCH MUSLIN COMPANY have taken the centrally situated Premises, Nos 16 and 17, Oxford-street, for the exclusive SALE of MUSLINS, and have now on show some thousands, many of the designs of which are surprisingly beautiful, and all of that ladylike character so peculiar to the French. They are now offering them at the literally absurd price of 2s 11½d the Dress. A Pattern Dress sent on the receipt of 36 postage stamps.

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London: Printed and Published at the Office, 195, Strand, in the Parish of St Clement Danes, in the County of Middlesex, by WILLIAM LITTLE, 195, Strand, aforesaid.—SATURDAY, MAY 1, 1852.